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CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT & SALT

U.S., Soviet Routine Meeting in Geneva 19 December [Levin]	AA 1
Warnke Urges Speedy Conclusion of SALT Agreement	AA 1
Further Round of Conventional Arms Talks in Mexico	AA 1

WORLD COMMUNISM & BLOC AFFAIRS

Moscow in Romanian Report Approval of Warsaw Pact Meeting	CC 1
Ponomarev Talks With Bulgarian Official at Sofia [PRAVDA 15 Dec]	CC 2
CEMA Discusses Restructuring of World Economic Ties [PRAVDA 16 Dec]	CC 2

U.S.-PRC NORMALIZATION

Observers Fear 'Anti-Soviet Considerations' in Rapprochement [Losev]	DD 1
Arms Supplies to PRC Involve Much More Than Profit [Druzhinin]	DD 2
Japanese Reaction to U.S.-PRC Ties Decision Noted [Tsvetov]	DD 3
Variation to TASS Version of Georgiyev 'Rejoinder'	DD 3

GENERAL

PRAVDA Reviews USSR-SRV Treaty, SALT II, Common Market [Maslennikov 17 Dec]	A 1
TRUD International Review on US-USSR Trade, Iran [Sisnev 12 Dec]	A 5
Moscow Domestic Program Discusses Events of 1978 [Kosovan, Shishlin]	A 7
West 'Confusing Causes and Effects' of OPEC Price Hike [Stoklitskiy]	A 11
U.S. Places 'Unfounded' Blame [Doronin]	A 12
UN Condemns Israeli Annexation of Arab Lands	A 13
Brezhnev Receives Pergamon Press President	A 13

UNITED STATES

Prospects for 'Expected Breakthrough' in U.S.-USSR Ties [Kraminov in ZA RUBEZHOM No 51]	B 1
U.S. Opinion Poll Cited on SALT, PRC Ties, Camp David	B 2
Only Repeal of 'Discriminatory Laws' Can Expand Trade [Bolshakov in PRAVDA 15 Dec]	B 3
Sen Abourezk Hits U.S. Support of Israeli 'Obstructionism'	B 4
NASA Announces Efforts To Save Skylab Abandoned	B 4

CHINA

PRC Propaganda Aids South Korea, Anti-DPRK Provocations
[Bandura in IZVESTIYA 16 Dec] C 1

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

Austrian Foreign Minister Continues USSR Visit E 1
Meeting With Kosygin E 1
Kremlin Dinner E 1
Departure for Leningrad E 2
Leningrad Arrival E 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Soviet Media Continue To Comment on Situation in Iran F 1
IZVESTIYA Notes Suppression of Demonstrations [Ardatovskiy 15 Dec] F 1
Moscow Persian Reports on Strike F 1
Shah Forming New Government F 1
19 Dec Situation Report F 2
'More Cracks' Appearing in Army [Levin] F 3
As-Sadat, Iranian Events Linked F 3
Failure of Camp David Deal 'Disaster for U.S. Diplomacy' F 4
Moshe Dayan on Liquidation of Military Settlements F 5
Briefs: Ambassador to PDRY F 5

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Membership in NATO Harming Turkey's Economy G 1
Briefs: Turkish Culture Minister G 1

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Fighting on Ugandan-Tanzanian Border Reported H 1
Outcome of U.S. -African Forum in Khartoum Reviewed H 1
[Alimov in IZVESTIYA 16 Dec]
SWAPO Refuses To Recognize Election in Namibia H 2
SWAPO Says Turnhalle Alliance Planning UDI in Namibia H 2
Angolan President Neto Discusses Ties With USSR, U.S. H 2
Briefs: New Ambassador to Somalia H 3

SOUTH ASIA

Taraki Discusses Friendship Treaty, Economic Problems J 1
Afghan Nationalities Problem to Receive Attention J 1

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Indonesian Communists Discuss PRC 'Threat' K 1
Opponents of Lao-Thai Friendship 'Doomed to Failure' K 1

INDOCHINA

USSR-SRV Treaty Contribution to World Peace Praised [Editorial in IZVESTIYA 16 Dec]	L 1
SRV Exposes Peking's 'Lies' on Kampuchean National Front [Levin]	L 2
PRC 'Pursuing Hostile Policy' Toward Vietnam	L 3
Vietnamese CP Culture Delegation Ends USSR Visit [PRAVDA 14 Dec]	L 3
USSR-SRV Trade Volume To Reach Record High in 1978	L 4
Soviet-Vietnamese TV, Radio Cooperation Protocol Signed	L 4

NORTHEAST ASIA

SRV Foreign Minister Holds Tokyo Press Conference [Kosovan]	M 1
Ends Visit to Japan	M 1
PRC Nuclear Explosion Causes Radioactive Rain in Japan	M 2
Shibayev-Led Trade Union Delegation Arrives in Mongolia	M 2

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

TASS Scores Reports of Socialist Trade With Chile [Babenko]	N 1
Briefs: Havana Communications Centers	N 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Suslov Presents Award to Brezhnev at Kremlin Ceremony	R 1
AFP Reports Tadzhik Party Secretary Removed [Paris]	R 4
Kazakh Supreme Soviet Elects New Presidium Chairman	R 4
Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Session Opens in Kiev 18 December	R 5
Session Continues 19 Dec	R 6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

First Stage of Atomnash Nuclear Equipment Plant Commissioned	S 1
Briefs: Magadan-Sinegorye Flights; Zeya-Svobodnyy Power Line; Carbamide Concentrate Plant	S 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Gorizont Communications Satellite Launched 19 Dec	U 1
Cosmos-1063 Earth Satellite Launched 19 Dec	U 1
Force-5 Underground Earth Tremors Recorded in Armenia	U 1

U.S., SOVIET ROUTINE MEETING IN GENEVA 19 DECEMBER

LD200300Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by commentator Viktor Levin]

[Text] Good morning, Comrades. We start the review of reports from abroad with a dispatch from Geneva saying that on 19 December there was a routine, 274th meeting between the Soviet and U.S. delegations which are conducting talks on preparations for an agreement on limiting strategic offensive weapons.

Observers noted that after this meeting, which went on for 2 hours and 15 minutes, there was no announcement about the next one. However, this did not surprise anyone for it is well known that on 21 and 22 December there will be a meeting in Geneva between Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Vance, secretary of state of the United States. They will be reviewing matters pertaining to the SALT agreement bearing in mind the intention expressed by both sides to complete in the near future the drawing up of this agreement on a mutually acceptable basis.

WARNKE URGES SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF SALT AGREEMENT

LD191650Y Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 19, TASS--A speedy conclusion of a new Soviet-American agreement to limit strategic offensive weapons would meet the basic interests of both the United States and the Soviet Union, said prominent political figure and diplomat Paul Warnke speaking at an international relations seminar in New York. In the age of missiles and nuclear weapons, he said, the only reasonable solution is to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war through limiting strategic arms. Paul Warnke made a special mention of the fact that a successful completion of the SALT talks will mark an important step along the path to a universal and complete disarmament. One cannot expect, he pointed out, to be able to achieve disarmament immediately. This is a lengthy and painstaking process consisting of many components each of which has its own individual merits.

FURTHER ROUND OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TALKS IN MEXICO

LD191458Y Moscow TASS in English 1406 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--As is reported here, the delegations of the USSR and the United States held in Mexico City on December 5-15, 1978 another round of negotiations on limitation of sales and deliveries of conventional armaments. The delegation of the USSR was headed by Ambassador at Large Lev Mendelevich. The delegation of the United States was led by Leslie H. Gelb, director of politico-military affairs of the Department of State. The discussion of questions was serious, frank, and covered their substance.

The delegations of the USSR and the United States were received by Mexico's President Jose Lopez Portillo and Foreign Minister Santiago Roel, who set forth the Mexican stand relating to questions of disarmament and the initiative of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean Sea on self-limitation of conventional armaments on a regional basis. The next round of negotiations will be held in Helsinki (Finland).

MOSCOW IN ROMANIAN REPORTS APPROVAL OF WARSAW PACT MEETING

LD192000Y Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1700 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: The supreme party and state organs of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia at their recent sessions approved the results of the Moscow conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact countries. In this connection our commentator writes:

The Moscow conference of the Political Consultative Committee was held at a complicated time involving much responsibility because while substantial positive changes have been happening in Europe and the world, the forces of imperialism and reaction have also been active. The statement adopted by the Political Consultative Committee is in general a new substantial confirmation of the unshakeable loyalty of the Warsaw Pact countries to the policy of detente, to their resolution to militate with joint efforts for deepening this process.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers attach great importance to the fact that the statement supports the will of the fraternal socialist countries to strengthen their all-round cooperation, to promote the line of expanding interaction with all the progressive and democratic forces of our world. The USSR acts constantly in that direction. This is confirmed among other things by the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation concluded with Vietnam and Ethiopia. The same idea was expressed in the decision of the PZPR Central Committee plenum which stated among other things that the results of the Moscow conference are of special importance for further strengthening the unity of the countries belonging to the socialist community and for implementing the policy of peace.

The socialist countries consider the primary current problem to be the need to halt the arms race and bring about real disarmament. The communists of Czechoslovakia in their turn believe that in order to attain these noble aims, as the CPCZ Central Committee pointed out, action must be taken to continuously improve the coordination of the joint policy of peace and the closer cooperation of all the Warsaw Pact states. In their statement adopted unanimously, the socialist community countries pointed out that the key problem of modern international life was the radical turning point toward halting the arms race and disarmament. The whole complex of their positive initiative is directed toward attaining that end, including the will to limit all types of armaments on the basis of strict observance of the equal security of the sides.

The trend to peace and real disarmament, expressed in the statement, enjoys the support and full adherence of the communists of the Warsaw Pact countries. The policy of Bulgaria, of all the countries of the socialist community, with regard to the community's social essence, aims at safeguarding peace and only peace. This fact was confirmed once again by the statement adopted in Moscow, and was pointed out by the decision of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic. In that connection Bulgaria's supreme party and state organs especially pointed to the great importance of these points of the Moscow conference which categorically condemns the imperialist policy of aggression, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism.

At the same time the decisions of the supreme party and state of the USSR, Bulgaria, the GDR, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia point out that in view of the increasingly intensive rate of the arms race pursued by the NATO countries, the Warsaw Pact states are obliged to take indispensable measures to strengthen their defensive alliance. They believe that this decision is necessary exclusively for the purpose of defending the peaceful and creative work of their peoples. Thus the decision of the plenum of the MSZMP Central Committee states that the policy of peace and the defensive capacity of the socialist states plays a decisive role in placing peace in Europe on a lasting basis. But because of the accelerated rate of NATO rearmament, the defensive potential of the socialist community must be permanently maintained and improved at the requisite level.

The plenum of the SED Central Committee pointed out that the SED will continue to systematically pursue the policy of continuously strengthening, by political means, the defensive capacity of the community of socialist states of which the GDR is an integral part.

PONOMAREV TALKS WITH BULGARIAN OFFICIAL AT SOFIA

LD191111Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Sofia, 14 December, TASS--A meeting has been held here between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and P. Tanchev, secretary of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS] and first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian State Council.

P. Tanchev acquainted B.N. Ponomarev with the joint activity of the BCP and BZNS in building a developed socialist society in Bulgaria and told of the BZNS' contribution to the development and strengthening of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and cooperation. He briefed him about the BZNS' broad international activity aimed at strengthening peace and security.

The meeting took place in a cordial, comradely atmosphere.

CEMA DISCUSSES RESTRUCTURING OF WORLD ECONOMIC TIES

LD181655Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A conference of deputy foreign ministers, deputy foreign trade ministers and other executives of these ministries from CEMA countries took place in Moscow. The participants exchanged opinions on the present status of the problem of restructuring international economic relations on a just, equitable and mutually advantageous basis, on establishing a new international economic order and on the socialist countries' participation in examining these problems both in the United Nations and elsewhere.

The representatives of interested CEMA countries put forward and discussed considerations on measures aimed at stepping up and coordinating their future work in these spheres.

OBSERVERS FEAR 'ANTI-SOVIET CONSIDERATIONS' IN RAPPROCHEMENT

LD200202Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A commentary by Sergey Losev concerns the forthcoming establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

Officials in Washington have supplemented the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the exchange of ambassadors on 1 March next year with explanations for the outside world and for home consumption. The national security adviser to the President, who is one of the architects of the China card policy against the Soviet Union, has made assurances in an interview with TIME magazine that the normalization of Sino-American relations does not carry any hostile schemes against the Soviet Union. The New York TIMES gives a reminder in this connection that at the time of his visit to Peking last May Zbigniew Brzezinski publicly made sharp attacks on the Soviet Union and told the Chinese leaders the United States did not object to a Sino-Japanese treaty containing an antihegemony clause. Peking, of course, regards the hegemony concept as an excuse for creating an anti-Soviet alliance.

In connection with the establishment of diplomatic relations President Carter has declared that the United States is far from wishing to use its new relationship with China to the detriment of the Russians or anybody else. Clearly it would be premature to disregard these assurances, coming as they do from the leader of the United States administration. It is obvious, however, that the real value of the assurances will be known in the light of further political moves by Washington. It will then be seen whether the normalization is a recognition of a reality or whether it is dictated by other considerations. Although the normalization of relations between the United States and China has long been expected, the American administration was preparing for the move in an atmosphere of secrecy, so much so that it tried to hide information about it even from Congress. But what was there to hide if everything was aboveboard and the moves that have been made serve the interests of security and stability, as both sides would have us believe?

The desire for secrecy could hardly have been dictated by the administration's wish to place the pro-Taiwanese lobby in Congress before fait accompli. [sentence as heard] The lobby favors the continuations of close military ties with the regime in Taiwan. Washington is out to disguise the foundation and drape the background against which the process of normalization with China is going on in an attempt to play down its dangerous implications for peace. However, some American observers feel that anti-Soviet considerations may be the primary concern of the architects of Sino-American rapprochement. Apparently a significant section of the American public shares their anxiety. Commenting on the latest New York TIMES-CBS public opinion poll, one of the observers, McFadden, notes that no poll taken in the United States has shown Americans speaking out in favor of rapprochement with China on such a basis. McFadden concludes from the results of the poll that a growing number of Americans are insisting on measures to strengthen peace. They oppose U.S. intervention in crisis situations abroad. The question, however, is whether the United States administration is not taking the opposite course.

The United States has taken a categorical stand against any limits on arms supplies to East Asia, including China, at the new round of Soviet-American talks on the limitation of sales and supplies of conventional weapons, currently held in Mexico. The American delegation at the talks has unambiguous instructions from Washington to exclude this region from the talks altogether.

In this connection the more (?hardline) militarist circles of NATO are insisting that the Western powers help modernize and build up China's Armed Forces. According to the British DAILY MAIL, British arms manufacturers are hoping that the United States will no longer object to Harriers and other modern weapons being supplied to Peking. In the view of American military observer, Middleton, there is also the possibility, even if remote, of the Chinese buying weapons from the United States.

The authors of such irresponsible proposals should remember that they are playing with fire. ASEAN nations, for example, have displayed a large degree of caution in response to the latest reports from Washington and Peking. These countries know that the policies of the Chinese leadership are hostile to peace and international security. They must be aware of the dangers of the assumption that Peking's expansion will take the direction in which some Western politicians would like to channel it.

ARMS SUPPLIES TO PRC INVOLVE MUCH MORE THAN PROFIT

LD191934Y Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The decision by the United States and China to establish diplomatic relations on 1 January has caused a worldwide reaction. Of course, a normalization of relations is a good thing and should be welcomed, the more so as U.S. President Carter said that the United States didn't intend to use their new relations with China to the detriment of any other country. But China seems to adhere to the opposite idea. We bring you further details from political observer of Soviet television and radio, Aleksandr Druzhinin.

On the same day when it was announced about the establishment of diplomatic relations, it was said in Washington that America would inform Taiwan of terminating its diplomatic relations with it, and of renouncing the mutual defense treaty as of 1 January. The White House has explained, however, that the mutual security treaty concluded with Taiwan will remain in force for the whole of next year. When Zbigniew Brzezinski, one of the makers of American policy of China, was interviewed by the TIME magazine on the question of American-Chinese relations, he declared that the establishment of diplomatic relations with Peking must not be regarded as a move against the Soviet Union. He saw no basic incompatibility between improvements of the United States' relations with the Soviet Union on the one hand and with China on the other.

Well, only time will show to what extent Zbigniew Brzezinski's theory will be substantiated by concrete acts of American policy. And in the meantime, we cannot disregard facts that have come to our attention. I mean above all, NATO plans to supply China with weapons and to give it access to the newest of Western technology, especially in the military sphere. Some people in the West attempt to justify this policy by the handsome profits to be got from selling weapons to Peking. Others urge that Peking be drawn into the European Economic Community.

The crux of the matter, however, is that Peking continues to pursue a militarist policy, spearheaded primarily against the socialist countries. Its hostile acts against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam furnish sufficiently graphic evidence of this, just as Peking's striving for world domination is born out by its flagrant interference in the affairs of other nations by its support of the subversive pro-Peking forces in Indonesia, Burma and other Asian countries. Keeping all this in mind, it would be naive to consider the problem of arms supplies to China merely as a matter of profit for their supplier. This is a problem that has directly to do with the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of security of the peoples.

And this explains why the Soviet Union has been keeping a watchful eye on Western activities in this respect.

JAPANESE REACTION TO U.S.-PRC TIES DECISION NOTED

LD191920Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Here is a report from Tokyo correspondent, Vladimir Tsvetov, about the first reaction of Japan to the coming establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the PRC: [read by announcer]

The reaction of the Japanese ruling circles was cautious. Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira answered newsmen's questions evasively and inconclusively. The foreign minister announced that the government would closely follow the effect the normalization of U.S.-PRC relations would have on the developments in Asia.

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the departments of the Self-Defense Forces have warned that together with the Japanese-U.S. security treaty and the Japanese-PRC agreement, the normalization of U.S.-PRC relations could enhance China's confrontation with the Soviet Union. This would lead, according to Japanese military experts, to more tension in the Far East. The press quotes the chief of staff of the land forces who recently toured the ASEAN countries as saying that Southeast Asia considers China a source of danger to the security of the area. Observers also say after Washington normalizes relations with Peking, it will assign China the military role the United States has played in the Far East until now. Experts predict that in this case China can demand that Japan should speed up its military preparations. The head of the Communist Party's Foreign Policy Commission, (Tikara Oshino), commented on the U.S.-PRC relations by saying that there were many people in Japan who fear this normalization was fraught [with] an increase in tension. One cannot ignore the dangerous [word indistinct] of the Chinese course to set up a united anti-Soviet front or the U.S. policy towards Vietnam.

VARIATION TO TASS VERSION OF GEORGIYEV 'REJOINDER'

The following variations to the item entitled "Soviet Reaction to Normalization of U.S.-PRC Relations" and subtitled "PRAVDA Rejoinder on Decision," published in the 19 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page DD 1, were taken from the M. Georgiyev article "Concerning Normalization," which appeared on page 5 of PRAVDA 19 December:

Page DD 1, PRAVDA deletes first paragraph which is TASS introduction.

Page DD 2, first paragraph, line two reads:...confirmation of a secret collusion between Washington...supplying additional word.

PRAVDA REVIEWS USSR-SRV TREATY, SAIT-II, COMMON MARKET

LD181229Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 78 p 6 LD

[International Review by Arkadiy Maslennikov: "The International Week"]

[Text] The past week was marked by important events reflecting both our country's confident advance along the path of building communism and the further rallying of the forces of peace, socialism and national liberation.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted a decision to hold the regular elections to the Soviet Union's supreme organ of state power. They are scheduled for 4 March 1979.

The working people of the Lithuanian SSR celebrated a notable jubilee--the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of the Lithuanian SSR and formation of the Lithuanian CP.

The communists and working people of People's Poland celebrated the 30th anniversary of the formation of the PZPR and the 40th anniversary of the creation of the Polish Communist Party. Saddam Husayn, assistant secretary general of the Ba'ath Party and vice chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq, paid an official friendly visit to the USSR. The eminent Iraqi guest was received by L. I. Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman.

The international theoretical conference "The Building of Socialism and Communism and World Development" took place in Sofia and delegations from over 70 communist and workers parties and democratic revolutionary and national liberation movements and eminent Marxist scholars from various countries took part in it.

At the same time the past week reaffirmed the desire of imperialist and reactionary forces to hinder the people's advance toward freedom, independence, peace and progress. With Washington's patronage the dictator Somoza is trying to suppress the democratic movement in Nicaragua. Disregarding UN decisions and the world public protests, the racist rulers of the Republic of South Africa, with the aid of an election farce, are seeking to legitimize their colonial rule in Namibia. In the Near East the parties to the Camp David deal are displaying unremitting activeness aimed at concluding a separate Israel-Egyptian "peace treaty" behind the backs of the Arab peoples and counter to their interests. In Tehran and other Iranian cities powerful antigovernment demonstrations have been held to demand the democratization of the country's sociopolitical system and consolidation of its independence.

Outstanding Event

The past week was marked by a very important political event--on 13 December the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ratified the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] signed in Moscow 3 November 1978. The exchange of ratification instruments took place in Hanoi 13 December 1978. The treaty has entered into force.

Speaking at the Presidium session, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev described the treaty as a document of outstanding political significance. It mirrors the relations between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples which emerged while Vietnam was waging the heroic battles for its freedom, relying on the USSR's fraternal support, and which continue to strengthen now. These are the sincere, pure relations of class brothers, of brothers in the joint struggle for Marxist-Leninist ideals.

The Soviet-Vietnamese treaty places these relations on an even firmer political and legal footing. The treaty's most important aim is to insure favorable conditions for the peaceful, creative labor of our two countries' peoples and for the successful building of socialism and communism in the SRV and the USSR. In the event of either side coming under attack or under threat of attack, the treaty provides for the Soviet Union and Vietnam to enter into immediate mutual consultations to eliminate this threat and take appropriate effective steps to insure the peace and security of their countries.

In displaying concern for their security, the Soviet Union and Vietnam are far from threatening anyone. The treaty confirms that the main directions of USSR and SRV foreign policy remain the struggle to insure international peace and the security of the peoples and to firmly establish equality and justice in international relations.

Loyal to this policy, the Soviet Union and Vietnam are persistently striving to create lasting peace and genuine security on the Asian Continent and actively support the desire of the Southeast Asian peoples for peace, independence and cooperation. The Soviet-Vietnamese treaty thus accords with the interests not only of the peoples of our two countries but also of improving the situation in Asia and throughout the world.

This is why this treaty has been greeted with great satisfaction both by the peoples of the USSR and SRV and also by the world's progressive public. "Some 50 million of our fellow countrymen," writes NHAN DAN, organ of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee, "unanimously welcome the new step in the development of the relations of solidarity, friendship, and all-round cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union, and welcome the further strengthening of the socialist system's might and of the forces of peace, revolution and progress in the world. The fraternal countries and parties and progressive mankind share our tremendous joy."

The Soviet-Vietnamese treaty arouses the displeasure only of those circles which do not care for the cohesion of the socialist countries and see it as an obstacle to their hegemonist plans and subversive work against the forces of peace, freedom and progress.

To Justify Peoples' Hopes

The core of world politics today and the main task on whose solution mankind's future depends is the struggle to relax international tension and halt the arms race.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist Warsaw Pact members, as the recent Political Consultative Committee conference in Moscow noted, are fully determined to seek the speediest emphatic breakthrough at the talks on ending the arms race and on disarmament. The conference participants expressed the conviction that the speedy completion of the Soviet-American talks on a second agreement limiting strategic offensive armaments (the so-called SALT II) would, in particular, be of tremendous importance.

It can be noted with satisfaction that positive shifts have become evident lately in this important sphere thanks to the Soviet Union's tireless efforts and to the increasing pressure from the peace-loving public.

A meeting between USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance upcoming 21-22 December in Geneva has just been announced in Moscow and Washington. [paragraph continues]

The official announcement says that the meeting will consider questions "relating to the agreement on limiting strategic offensive armaments, bearing in mind both sides' expressed intention of completing in the near future elaboration of this agreement on a mutually acceptable basis."

The news that the SALT II talks are nearing completion has been greeted with a sense of satisfaction by the world's progressive public, including the United States. Speaking at a press conference of representatives of different U.S. social organizations, D. Cartwright, executive director of the Citizens' Organization for a Sane World, declared that the SALT agreement will help overcome the United States' longstanding urgent socioeconomic problems. Press conference participants expressed the conviction that the expected treaty will make it possible to reverse the arms race and to strengthen peace throughout the world.

Senator F. Church, prominent U.S. politician, has voiced support for the conclusion of a new Soviet-American agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments. Speaking at Brigham Young University in Provo (Utah), Church declared that he intends to campaign actively for Senate ratification of the expected SALT agreement.

However, all this does not mean that there are no obstacles in the way of concluding this agreement. The many years of experience in Soviet-American talks on questions of limiting the arms race teaches us that as soon as progress becomes evident in these talks, an outcry about a "threat to U.S. security" immediately emanates from the camp of the cold war champions across the ocean.

A final agreement has still not been reached, yet groups of retired general and admirals, as the Washington POST indicates, are already stumping the country persuading Americans that the anticipated SALT agreement is a "trap" and that "the Russians have achieved military and nuclear superiority over the United States."

The opponents of strategic arms limitation are also very active in the U.S. Congress, where hesitant senators are being cultivated intensively with the aim of preventing ratification of a future agreement.

It cannot fail to cause concern that a clear desire to "compensate" for limitations which could be placed on certain types and systems of armaments by means of increasing appropriations for developing other types of weapons which are not yet the subject of talks can be detected in U.S. official circles, particularly in the Pentagon. This is being done allegedly with the aim of "lessening resistance" to a new SALT agreement but in fact means nothing less than the launching of the arms race in new, even more dangerous directions.

Warning the government against attempts to "insure support for the SALT II agreement" by adopting new weapons systems, Paul Warnke, the recently retired director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, stated that steps taken for this purpose would only increase the danger of the outbreak of war. "Let us hope it does not happen," Warnke noted, "that the government undertakes military expenditure and approves production of types of weapons which would otherwise remain just a bad dream."

It is quite obvious that the successful and speedy completion of the Soviet-American talks on strategic offensive arms limitation demands not concessions to the "hawks" but firm will and sincere desire to spare the peoples from the onerous and dangerous arms race.

Contradictions Exacerbated

This week the foreign news media have continued to comment widely on the "Common Market" leaders' decision to create a so-called "European Monetary System" [EMS].

Pointing out that the initial refusal by Britain, Italy and Ireland to join the EMS hit hard at the plans of those who advocate accelerated economic and political integration in West Europe, certain press organs point to intensifying contradictions within the EEC as accounting for this.

For all the differences in the specific problems facing these countries, they are united by common and, it must be said, valid fears. These are that the narrow limits envisaged by the EMS for exchange rate fluctuations will still further reduce the already low competitiveness of their goods, while the extra expense connected with setting up the new system will be an intolerable burden on their weakened economies.

But these countries also have not been able to reject the treaty formulated in Brussels out of hand, as the saying goes. This would mean pitting themselves against the quite cohesive nucleus of "Common Market" monopolies and finding themselves face to face with stronger and undoubtedly better organized competitors.

All this explains why none of the three "rebels" has taken a totally negative stand on the question of joining the EMS. Approving the plan for this system in principle, Italy and Ireland promised to give a definitive answer in a week's time, and Britain "at a later stage."

Each of these countries had its reasons for deferring its final decision. Britain's joining the "Common Market" has meant increased unemployment and inflation and reduced living standards for the people. Joining the EMS on present terms, it is believed in the British Isles, would still further exacerbate the economic problems and place the ruling Labor Party in a difficult position regarding upcoming elections.

A fierce struggle developed in Italy on the question of joining the EMS between the conservative political groupings in service to big capital and the democratic parties reflecting the interests of the masses. On 13 December G. Andreotti, chairman of the Council of Ministers, announced in Parliament that the government had adopted a decision on Italy's joining the EMS. Following Italy, Ireland also announced that it would join the EMS.

Commenting on the Italian Government's decision, political observers draw attention to the fact that it was prompted by pressure from the EEC leadership and local conservative circles. Once again this confirms that the "European Monetary System," like all "Common Market" policy, is elaborated by the monopolies, on behalf of the monopolies and for the monopolies.

Particular attention is drawn to this social aspect of the EEC's new monetary policy in a statement by C. Fiterman, Central Committee secretary of the French Communist Party, published in L'HUMANITE. Criticizing the French Government's stance of unconditional support for the EMS, Fiterman points out that only the big corporations, especially the big West German corporations, stand to gain from West European monetary integration.
[paragraph continues]

"The European Monetary System", the statement goes on, "is immediately intended to strengthen the austerity policy still further and to accelerate the closing of enterprises considered unprofitable. For the working people this will mean new difficulties and increased unemployment".

In this way creation of the EMS exacerbates the whole spectrum of interstate and social contradictions, which foreshadows new competitive rivalries and a heating up of the class struggle of West Europe's working people.

The events taking place in various regions of the world demonstrate that in the complex opposition of social and political forces of which the living fabric of international relations is made historical righteousness, and therefore ultimate victory also, is on the side of those who uphold the ideals of peace, freedom and a bright future for mankind.

TRUD INTERNATIONAL REVIEW ON U.S.-USSR TRADE, IRAN

LD201017Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 12 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[V. Sisnev international review]

[Excerpts] Who Is Hindering

"Representatives of the American administration and American business circles who have visited us have declared that they are in favor of mutual cooperation. The Soviet Government is too. What then, is hindering us?" [signed] A.V. Tikhonov, coke and chemical plant worker (Kemerovo).

It would be more accurate to ask: Who is hindering us? Because it is a question here not of any supernatural forces or circumstances but of specific persons who occupy many official positions in U.S. political and economic life.

In the majority of cases, I believe, there can be no doubt that the statements of the officials and businessmen who represented the United States in Moscow at the sixth session of the U.S.-Soviet Trade and Economic Council were sincere. Particularly as almost all the businessmen who came to us have long been backing up their words with mutually advantageous contracts with Soviet foreign trade organizations. The discriminatory framework surrounding trade with the USSR is just as disadvantageous to them as to us.

This author has had repeated occasion to talk with the so-called "captains of the American economy" and to hear their views on prospects and needs for cooperation between our two countries. Being capitalists--that is, people alien to us in both class and ideological terms--they are nonetheless aware of one truth: Not only their personal success in the relevant business sphere but also the future of their country in a wide sense and the future of all mankind depend on the state of Soviet-American relations. It may boldly be said that such sober-minded people are in the clear majority among Americans.

It is legitimate to put this question: Why, in that case, has the volume of trade between the USSR and the United States fallen by almost one-third over the past 2 years and is continuing to fall, while turnover with other capitalist states is developing at a higher rate? Because, to use L.I. Brezhnev's expression, certain circles in the United States are using trade legislation as a kind of valve to regulate the flow of reciprocal trade depending on their mood or on the political situations which arise from time to time.

The military-industrial complex constitutes the basic nucleus of these circles, as D. Eisenhower formulated it in his last speech on giving up the U.S. Presidency. Possessing colossal means of pressuring national foreign policy, the suppliers of missiles, aircraft carriers, tanks and other military equipment have quite frequently emerged triumphant in the confrontation with champions of a sensible course. In particular, their henchmen in Congress also imposed the discriminatory law on trade with socialist countries.

Logic is powerless against these people. Contrary to all reasons and arguments, they will call white black. A graphic example of this is provided by Senator H. Jackson, one of the authors of the discriminatory trade law and an uncommonly consistent advocate of continuing rivalry with the Soviet Union in the arms sphere. Here is a recent example of the way in which American "patriots" of this kind operate. On arriving in Lisbon for a meeting of NATO countries' parliamentarians he was not ashamed to attack his own administration in his very first speech for preparing to conclude a new agreement with the USSR on the limitation of offensive strategic arms (SALT II). According to the Washington POST, the White House was flabbergasted at this "tactlessness," which in fact, was a preplanned maneuver aimed at further poisoning the international atmosphere.

Let us hope that commonsense will prevail in the American political arena. As L.I. Brezhnev rightly pointed out, far from all of us in the USSR like the particular present-day U.S. system either, but this does not prevent us understanding the significance of good relations with that country. It is hard not to agree that "for a correct understanding of this significance we are in no way obliged to admire each other. It is enough for each of us to be a patriot for his own country, to be aware of its real interests and to value them."

Through Doors of Violence

"Literally all public, political and religious groupings in Iran are now participating in antigovernment actions. What accounts for such unanimity?" [signed] Hero of Socialist Labor G.I. Donets, construction workers team leader (Kiev).

Well, it is not accounted for by the reason which Western and, above all, U.S. propaganda assiduously highlights; that the previous government, began moving Iran too quickly out of the feudal age into the 21st century, and now the backward people, blinded by prejudice and superstition, have rebelled against such rapid and, to them, incomprehensible progress.

If this were so, the present military government evidently would not have had to resort to such measures to appease the people as arresting many members of the former Cabinet and the state apparatus. They are charged not with encouraging "excessive progress" but with embezzlement of state property, bribery and pandering to foreign companies to the detriment of national interests. To this may be added the following statement by TIME magazine: "The government's austerity plan, aggravated by rising prices and inflation, which, according to unofficial estimates, reached 50 percent last year, became an explosive mixture which finally blew up."

It is not without interest to point out that the people's indignation has assumed particularly harsh forms with regard to the banks, which Iranians see as a real stronghold of any injustice and foreign influence in their country. During this year 1,400 of the 7,000 bank buildings in Iran have been damaged in one way or another. On the single day of 5 November more than 400 banks were damaged or totally destroyed during mass demonstrations. They included the seven-story Melli Bank in the very center of Tehran, which was burned down.

This is what Senator (Naini) said at a session of the upper chamber of the Iranian parliament 7 December: "Not one prime minister in recent years has been interested in our difficulties and problems. Have governments really fulfilled their programs as they promised in the Senate? We are now reaping the fruits of past mistakes. Every day people are being killed throughout the country. How long can this continue? Our difficulties are of a political nature. The government must not go to the people through doors of violence!"

It all seems clear and understandable. The Iranians have weighty enough internal reasons for discontent. Real reasons, not those ascribed to them in Western capitals. But recently malevolent voices have been heard to allege increasingly frequently that the "troubles" in Iran have been "inspired by Moscow." As recently as 8 December the American newspaper the Atlanta JOURNAL CONSTITUTION cited certain "high-ranking U.S. intelligence employees" who, have reached the conclusion that "the rightwing Islamic leaders are subsidized indirectly from Moscow." Since an ever-increasing number of such wild "conclusions" is piling up, the idea suggests itself that someone needs them for some purpose or other and that it is no accident that they are presented with such regularity. Perhaps someone in one or several Western capitals is preparing public opinion for their interference in Iran's internal affairs?

MOSCOW DOMESTIC PROGRAM DISCUSSES EVENTS OF 1978

LD192055Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 19 Dec 78 LX

["The Process of Detente--Reality and Prospects" program, which is part of the series "Topical Problems of International Life," presented by radio correspondent Valeriy Kosovan with commentary by international affairs journalist Nikolay Shishlin--live or recorded]

[Text] [Kosovan] The present year is drawing to a close and it is natural for people to dwell upon and assess the international situation, to dwell upon relations among countries with differing social systems, upon what has been achieved in the sphere of containing the arms race. Nikolay Vladimirovich, how do you assess the year internationally?

[Answer] The year 1978 was no ordinary year and the international picture is therefore made up as a mosaic, though some trends do appear with sufficient clarity. On one hand we have what appears to be a continuation of the dialog between socialist and capitalist countries. Within the framework of this dialog such important events took place as Comrade Brezhnev's visit to the FRG, the meeting between the USSR and French ministers of foreign affairs and many other events which no doubt bear the stamp of detente.

It can be said that on the whole a dialog between countries belonging to different social systems is not fruitless. Suffice it to remember among other things that quite recently a very large group of American senators and businessmen visited Moscow and met Comrade Brezhnev and we must say that their conversations and talks demonstrated that large and influential circles in the United States are interested in proceeding along the path of detente, along the path of sound relations of peaceful cooperation with the Soviet Union.

[Question] And the same can be said regarding such important talks as those on the limitation of strategic offensive arms between the Soviet Union and the United States. Considerable progress has already been achieved during these talks and now Western commentators are beginning to speak with conviction of the prospects for completion of these talks. However, on the other hand another kind of phenomenon exists in the world, and a definite brake on the process of detente has been experienced beyond question. This concerns, primarily, the continued arms race in the West.

[Answer] In this respect the December meeting of the NATO Council in Brussels on the foreign minister level by no means struck a promising chord. In actual fact the main decisions of this NATO session can be summed up as an appeal to expand the arms race and the Western military press is already talking about developing some sort of new weapons systems apart from traditional types which, however, already include mass destruction weapons. The military press is also talking about some weapons using beams [luchevoye oruzhiye] and elementary particles. At any rate it is being stated with conviction that the U.S. Congress will permit appropriations for such research work to be trebled, that is from \$12 million to something approaching \$40 million.

Besides, one must not overlook the fact that the masters of the Western arms forces can see a new market for their lethal output in present-day China. For instance, the British and the French, are already pursuing fairly active negotiations with the present authorities in Peking on this topic. Concrete deals are being concluded regarding delivery of military equipment and, mountains of arms are building up not only in the West but in the east as well.

The following detail is characteristic: While perfecting its armed forces and while producing more and more new types of weapons and increasing the quantity of arms, the West says that this is being done solely because of the existing Soviet threat, the Warsaw Pact threat, that is, the old and hackneyed myth is being repeated over and over again.

[Question] But a solution is being put forward which runs something like this: The West will arm, the West will stockpile weapons, but the ~~socialist~~ countries, apparently, have to follow the road of reducing arms.

[Answer] And advancing in such different directions they think it is possible to reach some world-wide harmony! However, it is sufficiently well-known what would happen in today's world if imperialism did attain a position of supremacy over socialism.

When we dwell on the results of the international development of 1978 we must see that although this mosaic picture represents reality there are some factors which on the whole add up in favor of the interests of peace, the interests of detente. For it is also true that not one or two but several sufficiently important agreements exist--bilateral as well as multilateral ones--that are to some extent containing the arms race. And what has been achieved during 1978, be it in Vienna on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe or at the talks on limiting strategic arms, is already a very great plus achieved in 1978, a plus leading us toward our key goal.

[Question] Nikolay Vladimirovich, in the decisions of the November meeting of the Political Consultative Committee in Moscow and, in particular, in the unanimously adopted declaration it is pointed out that one of the sources of dangerous tension in international relations is the policy of colonialism and neocolonialism, a policy which is actually a desire to establish domination and subordination. As experience has shown, certain circles in imperialist countries have not renounced their classical means of subordinating whole countries and peoples. What can be said about this, taking present-day events as an example?

[Answer] There is no doubt that imperialist attempts to meddle in the internal affairs of peoples of other countries is one of the sources of tension in contemporary international relations. And, unfortunately, one cannot say that the neocolonialist policy has been done away with. It exists in Africa, it exists in certain forms in Asia and it exists in Latin America. So, strictly speaking, we have a situation like that associated with the well-known events in Africa, and the situation which has now come about in Iran reminds one of this, too, to a considerable degree.

The facts here are well known. Our press and radio regularly give information about the Iranian events, but it is worth saying a few words about these events since it is a very eloquent illustration of the imperialist attitude toward a purely internal movement with internal origins. In effect, there has been in Iran a very broad mass demonstration of the working people and various sections of the population, including religious sections in that country against the shah's authority, against the existing order and against the existing regime.

[Question] And what of the U.S. reaction?

[Answer] The United States is looking everywhere for someone to blame for what has happened. It has gone as far as being prepared to reproach even the CIA over the fact that the CIA, apparently, failed to warn the White House and the State Department in good time about the possibility of such events occurring in Iran. It has to be confessed, however, that the Americans have nothing to reproach themselves for when it comes to these events. If the United States devoted maximum attention to anyone or anything, then it was to the shah and his regime. There were arms to the tune of \$18 billion, thousands and thousands of American advisers in Iran, including military advisers, and the powerful positions of the American oil companies in the Iranian economy.

The closest of ties--and I repeat thousands and thousands of quiet and noisy Americans are still in the country--yet the Americans are saying that they are threatened with losing Iran. They are afraid of losing what doesn't belong to them.

Americans approach Iran only from the point of view of the U.S. strategic interests, only from the point of view of the U.S. mercenary interests. They view everything through the prism of the Hormuz Straits--these are the straits in the Persian Gulf through which pass ninety percent of the oil Japan imports from the Arab countries, 80 percent of the oil for Europe and, approximately 13 percent of oil imported by the United States. And, naturally, Americans are showing concern--not for the interests of Iran itself, not for the American working people's interests but for the American monopoly interests.

They say approximately this: The reasons behind the events are some external intrigues, very nearly the hand of Moscow; they tell all sorts of fairy tales about this. They make up stories that the French Communist Party and the Italian Communist Party allegedly are financing the Iranian working people. Of course, this is utter nonsense.

In fact, the reasons for this manifestation by the Iranian working people is purely internal. The reason is the vast gulf between the position of the upper layer in Iranian society and the position of the millions and millions of ordinary Iranians. This is a gulf which is formed as a result of the domination of foreign monopolies in some or other country.

These events in themselves and the reactions to them are a sort of mirror of contemporary international relations and they show who is responsible for the increase in international tension. Whereas the USSR, most authoritatively came out against any interference in the internal affairs of Iran--and this is a very justified and weighty statement since the USSR has a 2,000 km border with Iran--and while the United States makes statements at various levels that it will not interfere in the internal affairs of that country, in fact, constantly, daily and hourly is trying to influence the course of internal events in that country.

Against this background, the decision of the recent conference of the Political Consultative Committee and the conclusions contained in the declaration it adopted concerning support for the contemporary liberation movement, strict observation of the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries--all of these articles undoubtedly are of great international importance. For only by respecting the rights of others to determine their own fate can we make progress toward peace in which the possibilities of cooperation will be widely revealed and at the same time the possibilities of a dangerous increase in tension will be reduced.

[Question] And the last question: How can we assess prospects for the development of the international situation and international detente in the near future?

[Answer] The reply to this is contained in the speech made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the conclusion of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee.

In his brief speech Leonid Ilich summed up some very important propositions: He said that the meetings of the Political Consultative Committee provide a reply to at least three important questions. First, how should we assess the existing situation: second, what has to be done? Replying to this question, Leonid Ilich said that the meeting had shown peace must be built not on an arms race but on disarmament. One must move toward confidence, build the edifice of stable peace on soil free from an arms race. Finally the meeting answered the question as to how to approach these aims: They must be approached jointly, by strengthening solidarity with each other, by strengthening with all democratic and progressive forces, with all those who are interested in preserving peace.

These tasks are, in fact, being solved; they are being dealt with. We can note that during the past year cooperation among the countries of socialism has been considerably enriched. This can be seen in the political sphere as well as in the economic and ideological spheres. Take, for example, the solving of major long-term specific programs of cooperation within the CEMA framework, or important results adopted at meetings this year and the results of the work of the Political Consultative Committee, meetings of secretaries of Central Committees of parties devoted to international ideological questions and forthcoming cooperation which has become apparent in this very important sphere.

And on the other hand we can see how very firm the ties of socialist states are with the liberated countries and with liberation movements. This has been vividly proven by recent events, particularly the birth of the Soviet-Ethiopian Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and of the Soviet-Afghan treaty of similar content.

We have every right to say that this natural union of the world socialist forces with national liberation forces is not only a reality, but it is a reality that is growing in strength and attaining a wider and more powerful character, a more influential one. And on this level what 1978 hands over to 1979 is not a bad heritage.

In essence, all this work on the strengthening of the socialist community, on developing ties with the national liberation movements, on strengthening cooperation with progressive democratic forces, on establishing norms of peaceful coexistence in international relations imbues the process of detente with strength and life. This work is tantamount to the work on implementing the programmed foreign-political tasks defined by the 25th party congress. This provides us with every reason to say that 1978 made a serious contribution to the implementation of these program tasks, in the implementation of the tasks put forward by the program of the further struggle for peace and international cooperation.

WEST 'CONFUSING CAUSES AND EFFECTS' OF OPEC PRICE HIKE

LD191538Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Sergey Stoklitskiy commentary: "OPEC--Causes and Effects"]

[Text] The decision of the 13 states who are members of OPEC to raise the basic price of crude oil next year has given rise to a stormy reaction in the West.

As a result of this decision the risk of a slump in the American economy becomes greater, grieves the New York TIMES. It will lead to a new destabilization of the Western economy, the Parisian LE MATIN warns.

In the meantime, the accord reached by the OPEC countries is a fully natural reaction to the state of affairs which has come about in the world capitalist economy. The price of oil has already remained frozen for 2 years, in a situation in which the prices of industrial goods imported by the young states, together with Western inflation, have risen on average annually by 9-10 percent.

This is not all, the American dollar, which serves as the base currency in oil calculations has, over this period, depreciated by an average of 20 percent. In the United States they have continued to pay their noticeably leaner currency for oil barrels that have lost none of their weight.

As a result, according to the OPEC Secretariat's calculations, export revenues have gone down by approximately 30 percent. Hence, the attempts of the members of this organization to compensate their losses, if only in part.

In these conditions, international capital in the West, and American capital first and foremost, deliberately confusing causes and effects, attempt to put the blame squarely on OPEC, to evade responsibility for the crisis situation in the world capitalist economy.

OPEC's decision is also significant in another way: Attempting to preserve the inequality that has come to dominate international economic ties, American oil diplomacy embarked on a number of demarches on the eve of the conference, beginning with promises and ending with dire threats addressed to oil exporters. In this the representative of the organization's conservative wing, with whose help Washington had hoped to undermine it from within, were the first to be subjected to conditioning.

This decision bears witness to the fact that arguments which originated before in the West that OPEC would soon be finished are not worth a cent. This decision has shown that the path of strengthening the unity of the young independent states is the correct path in the struggle against Western financial and economic exploitation of these states.

U.S. Places 'Unfounded' Blame

LD192246Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2046 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Anatoliy Doronin commentary]

[Text] The 13 OPEC member states have decided to raise the price of oil by 14.5 percent next year. As can be seen from news agencies' reports this decision has aroused a stormy response in the West. The New York TIMES writes that the raising of the oil price will lead to the destabilization of the Western economy. The U.S. observer (Lippmann) stresses it will cost the United States, in particular, an extra \$4 billion in trade deficits.

It is reported from Washington that the United States has asked OPEC to reconsider the decision. The increase in the price of oil will, in the opinion of Washington, aggravate the actual devaluation of the dollar caused by inflation and an unfavorable trade balance.

However, the oil exporting countries do not wish to pay for the economic difficulties of the United States.

They have increased prices in order to compensate for the losses from inflation and the fall in the dollar's exchange rate. According to calculations made by the OPEC Secretariat, in the 2 years that the price of oil of the international market was frozen, the export income of the oil producing states fell by about 30 percent. Thus, the OPEC decision to raise the price by 14.5 percent can only partly compensate them for their losses. So the attempts by the West and primarily the United States to blame OPEC for its own economic difficulties are, at least, unfounded.

UN CONDEMNS ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF ARAB LANDS

LD191438Y Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 19, TASS--The United Nations General Assembly has strongly condemned Israel's annexation of the occupied Arab territories. The Assembly's resolutions on the report of the special committee for the investigation of Israel's violations of human rights in the occupied territories point out that Israel's measures to alter the legal status, geographical character and demographic composition of the occupied territories carry no legal strength and constitute a serious obstacle to the efforts to achieve a fair and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The General Assembly condemned the massive arrests of Palestinian Arabs by the Israeli authorities, tortures of the detained. The documents criticise the creation and expansion of the existing Israeli settlements on the Arab lands, deportation and resettlement of Arab inhabitants of these areas, demolition of Arab houses, destruction of archeological and cultural values.

Demanding that Israel should give up the policy of settling immigrants in occupied territories, the United Nations General Assembly pointed out that this policy constitutes a flagrant violation of the Geneva convention on protection of the civilian population and of the corresponding resolutions of the United Nations.

The United Nations has again confirmed the inalienable right of all the displaced inhabitants to return to their former place of domicile in the territories occupied by Israel beginning with 1967.

The General Assembly has gone on record for aid to the Palestinian refugees.

BREZHNEV RECEIVES PERGAMON PRESS PRESIDENT

LD191146Y Moscow TASS in English 1134 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--Today Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received Robert Maxwell, president of the Anglo-American publishing corporation "Pergamon Press", at the latter's request.

Maxwell handed over the author's copies of Leonid Brezhnev's books just published in English: "Peace is an Inestimable Asset of the Peoples", "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth".

The Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev said, does very much to widen the peoples' contacts with the help of the book. It is important that the same efforts be made in the West, too. A good and honest book enhances mutual trust and helps develop cooperation and strengthen peace between them.

PROSPECTS FOR 'EXPECTED BREAKTHROUGH' IN U.S.-USSR TIES

LD191455Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 51 Signed to Press 14 Dec 78 pp 12-14 LD

[Daniil Kraminov report: "In Search of Good Neighbors"]

[Excerpt] New York-Chicago-San Francisco-Washington-Moscow--Pending a Breakthrough

A joint session of Congress was held in Washington, at which President J. Carter delivered a report on the results of the tripartite talks at Camp David. The speech was broadcast on all television channels and was then enthusiastically commented on, praised and extolled by not only permanent commentators but also other orators (Senator Abourezk alone said that the agreement lauded by Carter does not improve, but worsens, the chances of peace in the Near East). The next morning everyone in Washington was talking of the agreement and the President's speech, and our conversation with M. Shulman, adviser to the secretary of state, began likewise. He asked what we thought of the agreement, and we replied by evaluating it in roughly the same way as Senator Abourezk, adding that the Soviet Union cannot disregard the fact that the agreement provides for the creation of two U.S. airbases in Israel in place of those now operating in the Sinai Peninsula: The new bases, each valued at \$500 million, increase the threat to our country's security, as one local newspaper has already pointed out.

M. Shulman remarked that the bases are an issue of the remote future and asked for our impressions of our tour of the country. On hearing that, in our opinion, broad sections of Americans are amicably disposed toward the Soviet Union even though the mass media are stoking up hostility toward our country, he did not refute our impression or try to assure us that we were mistaken. Answering our question on Soviet-U.S. relations, he said that it is his conviction that they reached bottom last summer, after which a change for the better is naturally expected; they can descend no further.

"The administration and President Carter understand this," he continued, "and want American-Soviet relations to improve and develop positively, albeit within a definite framework. The President approved the visit to Moscow of Verity and Forrestal, leaders of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council. They were to be followed somewhat later by the visit of Secretaries Blumenthal and Kreps; they were to have taken place in the summer, as you know, but were postponed in connection with the trials in the USSR. In the next few days, as soon as Vance returns from the Near East, talks will take place between him and Foreign Minister Gromyko on strategic arms limitation."

M. Shulman was in an optimistic frame of mind. He advised us to familiarize ourselves with the review of American-Soviet relations which was to be delivered by an authoritative administration spokesman in a few days to the House International Relations Committee Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East. The review has been compiled by the State Department and approved by the National Security Council and the President. Thus it represents the administration's official position. He promised to send the review to the ZA RUBEZHOM editorial office--which his assistant did.

It included the already known assessment of the development and present state of American-Soviet relations, blaming their deterioration fully and squarely on the Soviet Union.
[paragraph continues]

In addition, the review recalled: "The President explained that a constituent element of U.S. foreign policy is recognition of the fact that Soviet-American relations at the present time, being fundamentally of a competitive nature as a result of different world outlooks and conflicting long-term aims, at the same time include a number of important coincident interests. The most important of our common interests is the need to advance through the minefields of conflicts in the present world without accelerating nuclear war. It follows from this that the priority determining our relations with the Soviet Union at the present time is dictated by the strengthening of our security through stabilizing the military rivalry between the two powers and advancing toward a settlement of the political rivalry which will not increase the danger of war."

The sequence set forth in this review of American-Soviet relations is very significant: First, talks on strategic arms limitation, then on controlling other types of arms, on banning all kinds of nuclear tests, on limiting weapons sales, on controlling antisatellite weapons, on the Indian Ocean, and on chemical and radiological weapons. Among the international problems influencing American-Soviet relations, it points to Africa first, above all Ethiopia and Angola, where the Soviet Union took a stand favoring one side; and also Namibia and Rhodesia with their "guerrilla forces"--as the review calls the national liberation movement--which use Soviet weapons. Then it mentions the Near East, where "big Soviet interests" are recognized and the USSR's "positive contribution" in the form of support for the Camp David agreement is desirable. After considering the so-called "China factor," which has complicated U.S.-Soviet relations, and "human rights," which the United States does not intend to abandon, however the Soviet Union might react, it notes that the volume of contacts and exchanges in science and culture has fallen over the past year. So has the volume of trade fallen as the result, in particular, of political causes, including decisions of the U.S. administration, which has imposed certain trade restrictions in response to the Soviet Union's foreign policy steps or internal measures.

The review concludes by pointing out that the Soviet Union can choose either to increase "elements of conflict" or to "extend cooperation measures" and ends with this assurance: "We must make it absolutely clear that if the Soviet leadership chooses the wiser course of restraint, it will meet with a proper response from the United States."

The Soviet leadership, as everyone has long been aware, has repeatedly proclaimed its readiness to cooperate with the United States for the good of strengthening peace and in the interests of both states and peoples. This readiness was reaffirmed by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the recent meeting in the Kremlin with the U.S. secretaries and representatives of business circles. It only remains to be hoped that the expected breakthrough in relations between the USSR and the United States will really come about, and soon.

U.S. OPINION POLL CITED ON SALT, PRG TIES, CAMP DAVID

LD191616Y Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 19, TASS--Most Americans support a lasting and stable peace in the world and object to U.S. participation in different adventures abroad. This is convincingly confirmed by a recent opinion poll conducted jointly by New York TIMES and the CBS.

The chief conclusion which follows from the opinion poll lies in the fact that an increasing number of Americans favour the adoption of concrete measures to consolidate peace in the world objecting against any interference by the United States in the internal affairs of other countries. A substantial majority of Americans, according to New York TIMES, favour concluding a new Soviet-American treaty to limit the strategic offensive weapons. It is known that another opinion poll, recently conducted by the ASSOCIATED PRESS together with the NBC, found that 75 per cent of Americans supported the conclusion of a new SALT agreement.

The New York TIMES and CBS opinion poll has shown, according to the newspaper comments, that despite President J. Carter's decision to recognize Peking U.S. public does not favour a rapprochement with China.

Washington's attempts to impose a separate settlement to the Middle East conflict are not supported by U.S. public either. According to the opinion poll, 67 per cent of Americans pessimistically assess the possibility of reaching genuine peace in the Middle East through this separate deal.

ONLY REPEAL OF 'DISCRIMINATORY LAWS' CAN EXPAND TRADE

LD191107Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Vladimir Bolshakov article: "For the Development of Trade"]

[Text] In the last few days representatives of business circles and a number of politicians and public figures in the United States have advocated the speediest elimination of the discriminatory restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union.

American businessmen, M. Forrestal, president of the American-Soviet Economic Council, has observed, entirely support L.I. Brezhnev's call for the development of Soviet-American trade free of any discriminatory provisions.

It is primarily a question of the law adopted by Congress in 1974 depriving Soviet trade organizations of the possibility of obtaining acceptable tariff rates and long-term credits. Congress' refusal to grant Most-Favored-Nation status to the USSR, the notorious Jackson-Vanik amendment, the delays in formalizing trade deals for the supply of equipment on Soviet orders, monitoring of these deals with a veto by various government departments as well as the White House recently--this is by no means a complete list of the barriers impeding the development of Soviet-American trade.

For several years now business circles and many influential U.S. press organs have been advocating the removal of these barriers. In the last few days alone the New York TIMES, NEWSWEEK, the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE and certain other newspapers and magazines have called for a review of the discriminatory 1974 law, advocated repeal of the Jackson-Vanik amendment and normalization of Soviet-American trade on a mutually advantageous basis, and have opposed artificially "linking" the development of trade with the domestic political situation.

At the same time the idea that Soviet-American trade should be utilized only to "overcome the enormous deficit in the U.S. balance of foreign trade" and to strengthen the dollar's position is creeping into a number of commentaries. It is proposed that this be achieved by means of temporary "indulgences" and not by repealing the existing discriminatory laws.

However, the authors of these prescriptions fail to remember that trade is not a one-way street. Positive development of trade is possible only on the principles of equality and mutual advantage--something stressed with the utmost clarity during the visit to the USSR by U.S. Treasury Secretary M. Blumenthal and Commerce Secretary J. Kreps and also in conversations with U.S. businessmen.

Only the repeal of all discriminatory laws and amendments aimed against the USSR can contribute to considerably increasing the volume of Soviet-American trade and improving the overall mutual understanding and cooperation between our countries. This would accord to the highest degree with the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and the United States.

SEN ABOUREZK HITS U.S. SUPPORT OF ISRAELI 'OBSTRUCTIONISM'

LD191144Y Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 19, TASS--Senator James Abourezk, Democrat, the distinguished American political figure, criticised the foreign policy of the United States, designed to render allround assistance to Israel.

Speaking at a conference on Middle East problems, sponsored here by the Institute for Policy Studies, the senator expressed serious anxiety over the continuing United States military and economic support of Israel. He emphasized that this support essentially helped fanning Tel Aviv's aggressive designs in that region. The Arab states justly call for the recovery of all the territories seized from them in the 1967 war, he remarked. The senator pointed out that no separate deal between Israel and Egypt could fully settle the Middle East conflict, because it left outstanding the key issue of settlement, to wit recognition and satisfaction of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to setting up a sovereign state. This is precisely why lasting peace in the Middle East can be established only in condition of a universal and full settlement with the participation of all sides concerned, Abourezk emphasized.

Though Israel continues pursuing an obstructionist policy in the Middle East, the senator said, that country still is a privileged trade partner of the United States. The United States generously renders multimillion financial, political and military support to Israel. It is precisely such support that allows Israel to block the attainment of a comprehensive peace settlement and to maintain the explosive situation in the Middle East, he said.

NASA ANNOUNCES EFFORTS TO SAVE SKYLAB ABANDONED

LD191020Y Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 19, TASS--The United States has decided to give up efforts to rescue the Skylab space station, it was reported today by an official NASA spokesman.

According to experts, the 85-ton Skylab will enter the dense strata of the atmosphere between the middle of 1979 and the middle of 1980. Scientists believe that there is real danger that the huge station will not burn up completely in the atmosphere and some of its debris will hit the earth's surface.

PRC DUPLICITY AIDS SOUTH KOREA, ANTI-DPRK PROVOCATIONS

LD191217Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Bandura Dispatch: "Whom is Peking Supporting?"]

[Text] Tokyo--The desire of imperialist circles to consolidate the split on the Korean Peninsula, to transform the southern part of the peninsula into their own private domain and to use Pak Chong-hui's Seoul regime in the struggle against the DPRK is encountering growing resistance from the world's peace-loving, democratic forces. The Second World Conference on the Peaceful Unification of Korea which has been held in Japan was fresh evidence of the strengthening solidarity of those who are championing the peaceful reunification of the Korean people.

It was a representative conference: Taking part in its work were about 500 delegates from 11 international organizations and the progressive public of 59 countries, including delegations from socialist countries. While emphasizing the broad nature of this forum, a big group of reporters who covered its work drew particular attention to the absence of Peking delegates from the sessions hall. Commenting on this extremely noteworthy fact, the journalists observed that the Peking leadership has preferred once again to confirm its reluctance to display any concern for the future of the Korean people and for the fate of peace in the Far East.

The fact that China's leaders are ignoring the movement for the peaceful unification of Korea is the logical consequence of Peking's global course of strengthening its alliance with reactionary forces of the imperialist countries. The Peking leadership cannot fail to know that today the northern part of the Korean Peninsula is a major target of the Japanese-U.S. military alliance cemented by the "security treaty." However, while realizing full well its aggressive nature, the Peking leaders nevertheless do not miss any opportunity to come out in support of this alliance and express their "understanding" of the forms and aims of the Japanese-U.S. military bloc. During his recent visit to Japan, Teng Hsiao-ping openly called for the retention of the U.S.-Japanese "security treaty" and for the strengthening of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces. At a time when Washington and Tokyo are embarking on a further buildup of South Korea's economic and military potential, the Chinese leaders are speeding up their political rapprochement with Japan, as evidenced by the Sino-Japanese Peace and Friendship Treaty.

Peking's doubledealing policy on the Korea question is objectively stimulating the aggressive schemes of Pak Chong-hui, the Seoul dictator, and the forces backing him. And consequently, many political commentators conclude that Peking must share full responsibility with these forces for fueling international tension in the Far East and for the provocations against the DPRK.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES USSR VISIT

Meeting With Kosygin

LD191552Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 19 December, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin today Willibald Pahr, the foreign minister of the Republic of Austria, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit. During their conversation, which passed in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, topical problems of bilateral relations between the USSR and Austria and also some international problems of mutual interest were examined.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the development of mutually advantageous cooperation between the Soviet Union and Austria. The mutual aspiration toward the further strengthening and expansion of friendly Soviet-Austrian relations in the interests of both countries' peoples and the strengthening of peace and security in Europe was stressed. It was noted during the discussion of international problems that the Soviet Union and Austria consider the consistent development of the process of detente, the ending of the arms race and the removal of the threat of nuclear war to be a most important task of the present time. In this connection attention was paid to the good opportunities possessed by the neutral states, including Austria, to accelerate this process.

Kremlin Dinner

LD191912Y Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--We fully share Austria's adherence to the policy defined in the state treaty and in the law on permanent neutrality. It is this policy that nourishes the mutual trust and the readiness to large-scale cooperation that are characteristic of Soviet-Austrian relations. This was stressed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko at a dinner in the Kremlin held in honour of Austria's Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr. The dinner was held after talks that passed in a friendly atmosphere and discussed during which were questions of Soviet-Austrian relations and some international problems. As a result of the talks, Andrey Gromyko noted, both sides have every reason to express satisfaction with the state of Soviet-Austrian relations.

It is very usefully that the Soviet Union and Austria are cooperating also in the sphere of international politics, he went on. We have coinciding or similar approaches to such cardinal questions as the strengthening of universal peace and disarmament. This allows our countries despite existing differences of a socio-political order to successfully interact in the interests of consolidating and further deepening the relaxation of international tension. The Final Act of the European conference is a good backing and, moreover, a sound basis in this. In questions of implementing the Final Act we and Austria have in many ways a common line.

The Soviet Union's position in questions of disarmament is well known, Andrey Gromyko said. At the special session in spring this year and at the regular 33rd session of the United Nations General Assembly we set forth a broad program of measures aimed at achieving a cardinal break-through in the field of disarmament. Important proposals were made by socialist countries in the declaration of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty member-states. These initiatives create a real possibility for advancing the cause of disarmament, given, of course, that the West also displays a striving for this and not only in words but also by deeds.

Touching on the forthcoming new meeting with the U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance at which questions concerning the drafting of a long-term agreement between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive arms will be discussed first of all, Andrey Gromyko expressed hope that mutually acceptable solutions of still remaining unsettled questions will be found in the course of the meeting and this will make it possible at last to conclude work on this agreement.

Speaking on the Vienna talks, Andrey Gromyko noted with regret that their next round ended without any advance made in spite of the fact that there were favourable prerequisites for it. Such prerequisites were created by the proposals of the socialist countries of June 8, 1978. The Western participants in the talks have not given as a matter of fact any clear answer to these proposals. One naturally cannot help asking the question when the NATO countries will go over from talking on reducing arms to constructive work at Vienna. They must have their say there. The world must know about it, the minister stressed.

In his return speech, Willibald Pahr said that Austrian-Soviet relations are in good accord with the process of detente, which has contributed to a considerable improvement of the political climate in Europe. We, he pointed out, regard the very conclusion of the State Treaty of 1955 on the restoration of independent and democratic Austria as one of the decisive and characteristic events, which have become possible in the atmosphere of such a policy and have on their part opened new prospects to the ideas of detente. This treaty and Austria's neutrality have since then become an inseparable element of European policies and are rated among the issues, which are considered to be indisputable, as they constitute factors of stability and peace in Europe.

The minister stressed the great significance of detente for Austria. Therefore, he said, the Austrian Government welcomed the policy, which has led to the Conference on European Security and Cooperation. The development, which was started by the conference is continuing. It can be said today, that the Final Act of the Helsinki conference is a document of such dynamics, which some sceptics did not expect from it in the course of many years. Further development of the process of detente, Willibald Pahr stressed, will depend on whether we succeed in halting the arms race and taking concrete measures for disarmament. Therefore, a successful completion of the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms is considered to be highly important, he said.

Departure for Leningrad

ID191914Y Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 19 Dec 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr, who is currently on an official visit in the Soviet Union, has left Moscow for Leningrad today.

Leningrad Arrival

ID192042Y Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 19 Dec 78 ID

[Text] Leningrad, December 19, TASS--Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr, who is currently on an official visit in the Soviet Union, arrived in Leningrad today. In Pulkovo Airport decked on the occasion of the minister's arrival with the national flags of the Republic of Austria, the USSR and the Russian Federation, the guest was welcomed by Vice Mayor of Leningrad Boris Taukin and other officials. The Austrian foreign minister is accompanied in his trip by Secretary General of the USSR Foreign Ministry Igor Yezhov, Soviet Ambassador to Austria Mikhail Yefremov and Austrian Ambassador to the USSR Gerald Hinteregger.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

IZVESTIYA Notes Suppression of Demonstrations

LD201041Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Commentator Vadim Ardatovskiy article: "Blood in the Streets of Esfahan"]

[Text] The Shah of Iran's entourage is resorting to any means to protect the antipopular regime.

An attempt was made in Iran Wednesday to organize demonstrations in support of the monarch. In Iran's second largest city--Esfahan--despite pressure from the authorities, approximately 5,000 people took to the streets (2 days earlier 500,000 residents had participated in an antishah procession in the same city). Despite the fact that the police banned people who did not have a photograph of the monarch with them from moving about Esfahan, the antigovernment opposition held counterdemonstrations under fire from police and troops. According to an AFP report, one youth was killed just for refusing to shout "Long live the shah!"

From Paris, where he lives in exile, Ayatollah Khomeyni, one of Iran's chief religious leaders, has appealed to servicemen to take the people's side. "We will free you from the yoke of the military advisers," Khomeyni promised, meaning U.S. dominance of the Iranian Armed Forces.

Moscow Persian Reports on Strike

LD191542Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 18 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A strike is taking place today at the call of the opposition in Iran to commemorate those who have been killed during actions to crush the antigovernment demonstrations in the country. Only last week, 140 people were killed and over 1,000 were wounded. Most institutions, banks and stores in Tehran, and the city's bazaar, are closed today.

The armed forces have taken up key positions in the city and tanks and armored vehicles are stationed at crossroads. The armed forces have been instructed to prevent gatherings.

According to news agency reports, U.S. advisers and CIA officials are arriving by air in Tehran.

Shah Forming New Government

LD192202Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program with Valeriy Kosovan]

[Text] AFP reports from Tehran that the shah has entrusted Gholam Hossein Sadiqi, a former deputy to Prime Minister Mossadeq, with the task of forming the country's new government. Sadiqi will give a reply within 2 weeks.

The shah is seeking a way out of the crisis by forming a cabinet that could rely if not on the support, then at least on the neutrality of the opposition. Thus his choice of Sadiqi, collaborator of Mossadeq, who was overthrown by pro-Western forces in 1953, as head of government.

19 Dec Situation Report

LD191802Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 19, TASS--Hundreds of thousands of Iranians took part yesterday in strikes and anti-government demonstrations called by the opposition leaders in tribute to the memory of victims of massacres of demonstrators. A representative of the opposition National Front described the general strike yesterday as "absolutely successful."

A mammoth mourning meeting was held in the city cemetery of Tehran, where many people killed during demonstrations were buried. The participants in the meeting reiterated their determination to carry on the struggle in spite of the tough measures taken by the government to suppress opposition actions.

Tension was running particularly high yesterday in the towns of Qom and Tabriz. As the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency reported, clashes continued there in the course of the whole day yesterday between participants in antigovernment demonstrations and troops, as a result of which several persons were killed.

Antigovernment demonstrations have resumed in Tabriz today.

The Iranian authorities, news agencies point out, are stepping up repressions against the striking oilmen. According to a report of an AP agency correspondent, the troops and the police are raiding settlements of oil industry workers, taking workers by force to the oil fields and making them work under the threat of use of arms.

Western correspondents cite in their dispatches from Iran ever more facts indicating to the growth of discontent in the Iranian Army over the actions of the government.

According to a UPI agency report, several hundred soldiers headed by the deputy commander of the local garrison in the town of Tabriz refused yesterday to open fire on participants in an antigovernment demonstration and marched together with them through the streets of the city chanting antigovernment slogans. The rebellious soldiers refused to return to their barracks.

The UPI writes that the Iranians refuse to serve in the army. The organization in charge of drafting to the army has again warned on the radio about the third "ultimate" deadline for the turn-up of draftees to the call-up office. The warning said that those who fail to turn up will be most severely punished.

London, December 19, TASS--Reporting on rioting in the Iranian Army, the newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES writes that on the order of the day today is the question of the army's loyalty to the regime. Even if the reports on rioting are half accurate, the GUARDIAN notes, they are an indication of growing dissatisfaction in the army, as a result of which it may cease to be the tool of power.

Washington, December 19, TASS--Commenting on the mounting antigovernment sentiments in the Iranian Armed Forces the newspaper Washington POST writes that the refusal of army units to fulfill the orders to open fire on demonstrators imply a grave danger to the shah's military government, as the army is his last support.

The American press continues publishing reports exposing the CIA's sinister role in Iran. Drawing attention to the 'long and close' ties of the CIA with the Iranian regime, the Washington POST quotes an official of the American espionage department as saying that Iran is a problem, to which it is attending from day to day. It follows from the article that CIA agents in Iran have wide opportunities for shadowing opposition figures and recruiting "reliable informers" among them. The CIA keeps an eye on the system of ensuring the security of oilfields in Iran.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1100 GMT on 19 December carries a Vienna-dated report that says that "five watercannons for the dispersal of demonstrations were lifted by United States combat planes from FRG territory to Iran, UNSERE ZEIT reports. At first, they were to be sent from Austria, but that country did not permit United States combat planes to land on its territory."]

'More Cracks' Appearing in Army

LD200312Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program by Viktor Levin]

[Text] The Japanese paper MAINICHI SHIMBUN has published, as it claims, excerpts from a conversation between Sanjabi, one of the leaders of the Iranian opposition National Front, and Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. This conversation was held on 13 December; as was reported at the same time by Sanjabi to press representatives, it did not produce any results.

However, what has been published by MAINICHI SHIMBUN--if of course this is authentic--contains highly important information. Thus, it is alleged that the shah said he was totally exhausted and would like to retire but that the army generals will not let him do so. As long ago as November, the head of the government, General Azhari, said it was he, not the shah, who determines the policies of the authorities--the aim of which is to forcibly crush the struggle of the broad popular masses against the regime. But even in the army the line of terror is coming up against growing opposition. It has become known that when the troops were again ordered to open fire during the general strike on Monday, which was held to protest the mass executions by shooting of the demonstrators in Tabriz, an officer and a group of soldiers refused to carry out the order and joined the demonstrators.

The demonstrators cried: "The soldiers are our brothers," welcoming them. And such events are taking place more and more often. The capitalist bourgeois press calls the army the last bulwark of the regime, but it also looks as if more and more cracks are appearing in this bulwark.

As-Sadat, Iranian Events Linked

LD192005Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The Arab countries are following the development of the situation in Iran with increased vigilance. This neighbor of the Arab states also has a certain influence in solving Arab problems.

In the past, U.S. imperialism has frequently used Iran as a political base for realizing its policy in the Middle East. It is known, for example, that the present regime has strong and friendly relations with Israel and insures the Israeli war machine's fuel requirements, meeting more than 50 percent of Tel Aviv's oil needs.

The reactionary antipeople regime of Sultan Qabus used Iranian forces to suppress the revolutionary liberation movement in Oman. These forces were also used in several other situations. It is no coincidence that a few days ago the Omani foreign minister expressed deep concern over events in Iran.

Many commentators in Arab capitals are expressing their belief that events in Iran have left their mark on Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. For example, in Beirut it is said that the events occurred when As-Sadat has been meeting with organized resistance from the Arab world, in his attempt to conclude a separate deal with Israel and that the example of Iran has dampened his ardor a good deal.

FAILURE OF CAMP DAVID DEAL 'DISASTER FOR U.S. DIPLOMACY'

LD191640Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Carter some time ago stated that if the Egyptian-Israeli treaty were not signed by 17 December--the date agreed on at Camp David--this would mean a disaster for U.S. diplomacy. In commenting on Carter's very emphatic statement, observers have explained that the U.S. administration did not envisage the possibility of such a marked blow to its separate deal policy in the Middle East. This is particularly evident by the fact that President Carter took an active part in preparing the Egyptian-Israeli deal, as well as by the fact that Secretary of State Vance practically supervised the Egyptian-Israeli talks.

What happened? You will find various answers to this question. Some people say that President as-Sadat adopted a harder stand than he took at Camp David. Others claim that Israel has become more intransigent. A third school of thought is that the failure was caused by the United States. It is difficult to agree with any of these views because President as-Sadat is prepared to sign a separate treaty with Israel at any time.

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR recently said that As-Sadat made considerable concessions that Israel had never dreamed of. Nevertheless, Israel's stand has not changed. It can be summed up as the usurpation of Arab land, completely neutralizing Egypt on Middle East issues and liquidating the Palestinian issue. In recent times, the White House has probably not tackled an issue as energetically as it did the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty. Consequently, there is another specific factor the White House did not take into consideration--a factor that caused marked revisions in U.S. plans for the Middle East.

This factor was the main cause of change in the Middle East political climate, and was clearly shown by the results of the Baghdad Arab summit conference. This conference unanimously condemned the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli Camp David agreements. The results of the Baghdad summit also indicated the line of confrontation. The United States and Egypt stand on one side while all the other Arab countries stand on the other. It is very clear that for the separate deal to be signed under such a climate, regardless of its conditions, means a step toward intensifying the political, economic and possibly military confrontation.

Now the White House is sounding the alarm. Telephone calls are continually being made to Cairo and Tel Aviv. All attempts are being made to expand the framework of the separate deal, to include even one more Arab state at least. But these attempts have been in vain. And even Sudan, which almost blessed Camp David, hastened to declare that the Camp David agreements contain many principles it condemns. Many U.S. observers are asking where the way out is. One can answer by saying: It is not to be found in attempts to revive the unsuccessful idea of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal.

MOSHE DAYAN ON LIQUIDATION OF MILITARY SETTLEMENTS

LD191320Y Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Paris, December 19, TASS--Israel's foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, on Monday addressed Israeli diplomats and journalists in Jerusalem, FRANCE PRESSE reports. In "his own circle" he showed no restraint and bluntly stated that, holding separate talks with Egypt on the conclusion of a so-called "peace treaty," Tel Aviv never intended liquidating its paramilitary settlements on the occupied Arab lands. He emphasized that the Israeli settlements "will remain there" and that they "have been set up for all time."

Speaking on the French television on the same day, Dayan said that the United States had not demanded that Israel should change its position in the talks with Egypt.

The words of the Israeli foreign minister have been confirmed by the actions of the Israeli occupation authorities, which continue the construction of paramilitary settlements on the seized Arab territories and step up their reprisals against the Arab population.

Tel Aviv is going to continue the "development" of the occupied Arab lands by the previous methods--by means of arms. The same FRANCE PRESSE correspondent reports that Israel at the time of the separate talks with Egypt "has not weakened its military potential in the Sinai Peninsula" where some 100 Israeli military bases, camps and other military objectives are now located. They all are spearheaded against the population of the occupied Arab lands, against neighbouring Arab states.

These revelations of Moshe Dayan confirmed once again that Israel intends perpetuating the occupation of the seized Arab territories and is not afraid of stating this in public because it feels United States support.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO PDRY--Moscow--Felix Fedotov has been appointed USSR ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. In connection with this he is relieved of his duties as USSR ambassador in Sudan. Vladimir Kaboshkin has been relieved of his duties as USSR ambassador in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in connection with his transfer to other work. [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1251 GMT 18 Dec 78 LD]

MEMBERSHIP IN NATO HARMING TURKEY'S ECONOMY

LD180224Y Moscow in Turkish to Cyprus 1400 GMT 16 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Disarmament Question and Turkey"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the large numbers of letters we have received from you recently express a justified concern about the arms race throughout the world.

Will the arms race be stopped? The efforts of a great many states, led by the socialist countries, have been directed at settling this question. The concrete proposals made by these countries over and over again are well known by one and all.

An analysis of the current state of affairs in the world shows, however, that while the socialist countries are actively trying to achieve (?a leap forward) toward ending the arms race, the aggressive imperialist countries--with the NATO states in the leading positions--continue to whip up the arms race. Do the results of the NATO Council which recently concluded its work in Brussels recently not demonstrate this fact? The leaders of the NATO bloc passed over the extensive program disclosed in the peace-loving proposals of the Warsaw Pact countries in silence and drew up plans for further modernizing their armed forces in 1979 and for increasing the number of their planes, rockets, helicopters, and other technical means of war.

This policy has already brought great calamities to a number of NATO countries. Turkey, suffering from an economic crisis, has tasted the bitter fruits of this policy. Turkey is compelled to spend a sum equal to about a quarter of its budget for military needs. This, in turn, has been the cause of a chronic deficit in the budget and Turkey's financial dependence on Western states. According to the Turkish press, Turkey's present indebtedness to Western states has exceeded the \$12 billion mark. To pay these debts, Turkey is spending the funds which are necessary to develop its national industry, agriculture, health services and culture.

In addition to the harm it has caused to the Turkish economy, membership of NATO also creates a danger to Turkey's security. Turkish newspaper comment on the subject points out the existence of innumerable [sayisiz] bases and other military installations on Turkish territory. These have been used repeatedly against the interests of Turkey's national security. NATO leaders are now trying to secure the arming of these bases with the neutron weapon.

What is the attitude of the Turkish nation? This is quite clear. The Turkish nation is saying no to the neutron bomb and no to the militarist plans of the NATO warmongers. The interests of the Turkish nation, just as the interests of the peoples of the whole world, make it necessary to deepen detente and to restrain the arms race. This is why the program of the socialist countries to give detente concrete form is of great and vital importance for Turkey as well.

BRIEFS

TURKISH CULTURE MINISTER--Ankara, December 12, TASS--Ahmet Taner Kislaili, minister of culture of Turkey, expressed profound satisfaction with the results of his recent visit to the Soviet Union and with the development of Soviet-Turkish cultural cooperation. Foundations for this cooperation were laid during the official visit paid to the USSR last June by B. Ecevit, prime-minister of Turkey, and his talks with the Soviet leaders. The programme for cultural and scientific exchanges between the USSR and Turkey in 1978-1980, which was signed in Moscow, is a new step forward in our cooperation, the minister stressed. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 12 Dec 78 LD]

FIGHTING ON UGANDAN-TANZANIAN BORDER REPORTED

ID201053Y Moscow TASS in English 1047 GMT 20 Dec 78 ID

[Text] Nairobi, December 20, TASS--According to reports reaching here, combat operations began again on Ugandan-Tanzanian border where an armed conflict had flared up several months ago. Tanks and artillery are taking part in armed clashes.

OUTCOME OF U.S.-AFRICAN FORUM IN KHARTOUM REVIEWED

ID191539Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 5 ID

[Yu. Alimov Article: "The United States and Africa: A Crisis of Confidence"]

[Text] The so-called Ninth African-American Conference recently took place in Khartoum, Sudan. Beginning in 1968, such conferences have been held regularly at the initiative of, and with money supplied by, New York's African-American Institute. Although these conferences do not adopt any resolutions, they are clearly designed to produce a political effect.

Washington attached special significance to the Khartoum function. The U.S. delegation was larger (about 100 persons) than all the delegations of the 26 African states and of the liberation movements of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa combined. The U.S. delegation was headed by Andrew Young, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations.

The Khartoum discussions showed that the U.S. delegation's chief aim was to draw Africa along in the wake of its anti-Soviet policy and to persuade the Africans to agree to a compromise and to protracted coexistence with the racist regimes of Pretoria and Salisbury. This meeting once again manifested vividly the U.S. desire to transform African-American meetings into a channel for pursuing its neocolonialist policy, seizing dominant positions in Africa, and insuring the kind of African sociopolitical development that will suit the West.

U.S. Senator Clark was particularly candid on this point. Despite the Africans' desire for equality, in his words, the United States is called upon to "assume leadership" in insuring security and combating racism and in the economic development of Africa, as well as to "combat communism on the continent." The U.S. delegates attempted in every way to discredit the policy of the USSR, Cuba and other socialist community countries and to whitewash their own policy.

It is not surprising that many African delegations did not agree with these American assertions and rebuffed them. This was manifested particularly during the discussion on foreign interference in Africa and the situation in the southern part of the continent. F. Deng, Sudanese minister of state for foreign affairs, stated in particular that Africans can see a fundamental difference between the socialist countries' aid to the African national liberation movements and the West's support for colonialist forces on the continent. A. Conteh, foreign minister of Sierra Leone, rightly observed that the West's so-called peace efforts and initiatives regarding racist regimes have entered an impasse. Representatives of African countries demanded that the United States abandon financial and economic support for the racist regime in South Africa.

The U.S. delegation had to change tack and seek to justify U.S. interference in African affairs and connivance with the racists. In an attempt to influence the sentiments of the African representatives, Washington's emissaries declared that the United States is prepared to assist the continent's countries not only in eliminating backwardness but also in defending their security and stability. But even these promises did not produce the effect they expected. "There is evidence of a crisis of confidence in relations between Africa and the United States," Kenyan Foreign Minister M. Waiyaki affirmed in summing up the conference results. The situation in southern Africa and U.S. policy in this region, Waiyaki warned, could cause a catastrophe in African-American relations. It is symptomatic that in Khartoum Americans heard African opinions at a forum which the Americans themselves had organized. Isn't this evidence of the failure of the so-called "new" U.S. policy on the African Continent? Its anti-Sovietism is inevitably becoming transformed into anti-Africanism and is ultimately deepening the contradictions between the African peoples and U.S. imperialism.

SWAPO REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE ELECTION IN NAMIBIA

LD200820Y Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, December 20, TASS--The South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the only lawful representative of the people of its country, has refused to recognize the so-called "election" held by the South African racists in Namibia and will continue its fight for the freedom and independence of its homeland. This is said in a SWAPO statement published here.

The so-called "free election", the statement says, took place in an atmosphere of terror launched by the occupation authorities against the patriotic forces and all those who seek real independence for Namibia. SWAPO urged the world public to consider the "election" results invalid and the established puppet government unlawful.

SWAPO SAYS TURNHALLE ALLIANCE PLANNING UDI IN NAMIBIA

LD191408Y Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] London, December 19, TASS--The puppet leaders of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), who were announced by Pretoria as "having won" the recent "elections" in Namibia, are going to proclaim unilateral independence of the country, having refused to hold elections for the second time under U.N. control. This is said in a report of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO), the only recognized representative of the Namibian people, that has been published here. With this aim, the placemen of the South African occupationists, the report says, intend to intensify repressions against SWAPO and all proponents of genuine independence, through using the punitive apparatus of the Republic of South Africa. The testimony of the racists' readiness to back the puppets' plans is the Prime Minister Pieter Botha's speech last week. In his speech, he said that occupation corps of the Republic of South Africa would stay in Namibia as long as is desired by the leaders of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance.

ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO DISCUSSES TIES WITH USSR, U.S.

LD191946Y Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, December 19, TASS--The foreign policy of the People's Republic of Angola is based on the principles of non-alignment, respect for the sovereignty of all states, peaceful coexistence, full equality and mutual benefit of partners, said Chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party, President Agostinho Neto of the People's Republic of Angola, addressing a mass meeting here.

III. 20 Dec 78

H 3

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

We will further pursue the policy of non-alignment, develop equitable cooperation with all countries of the world respecting our choice, irrespective of the socio-economic systems of these states.

But, the head of the Angolan state stressed, our main friends and loyal allies have been and remain the Soviet Union, Cuba and the other socialist countries, which assisted us in the period of struggle for national liberation.

Touching upon Angolan-U.S. relations, A. Neto stressed that Angola will not agree to establish diplomatic relations with the USA, if the latter tries to dictate conditions to it. The adoption of these conditions, he said, would be tantamount to loss of independence by the country.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO SOMALIA--The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Vladimir Vasilyevich Aldoshin USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Somali Democratic Republic. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Georgiy Yegorovich Samsonov from the post of USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Somali Democratic Republic in connection with his retirement. [Text] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 78 p 6 LD]

TARAKI DISCUSSES FRIENDSHIP TREATY, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

LD181006Y Moscow TASS in English 0944 GMT 18 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, December 18, TASS--The Treaty of Friendship, Goodneighbourship and Co-operation signed in Moscow between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan meets the interests of the peoples of both countries, serves the cause of safeguarding peace in Asia and throughout the world, it was stated by Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who addressed here a meeting of top officials of financial organizations.

Touching on questions of the government's domestic policy, N.M. Taraki noted that the five-year plan for the country's social and economic development, which is now being drawn up, would play an exceptionally important role in changing the social relations in Afghanistan. It will meet our people's priority requirements and there is full confidence that its implementation will lay the foundations for a blossoming and progressive society without exploitation of man by man.

At the same time the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan stressed that the party and the government did not conceal from the people the definite difficulties existing in the republic's economic development. The working people must realize that the results of the party's economic policy will not be felt right away. Only given the pooling of the efforts of all the working people will it be possible to build a new society in Afghanistan, he said.

In the sphere of foreign policy, N.M. Taraki noted, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has adhered and will continue to adhere to a peaceable course, based on principles of positive and active neutrality, respect of sovereignty and national independence of all states.

AFGHAN NATIONALITIES PROBLEM TO RECEIVE ATTENTION

LD191324Y Moscow TASS in English 1119 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, December 19, TASS--Article 21 of the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which is now being drafted, provides for the development of national languages and cultures of all the nationalities inhabiting the country. This testifies to the attention which the revolutionary government is attaching to the solution of the nationalities problem in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

An important step on this road is the decree of the Revolutionary Council. Guaranteeing equal rights and opportunities to all nationalities in the development of their cultures. The April revolution has given all the citizens the right to work, education, participation in socio-political life.

Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, repeatedly stressed, touching in his speeches on the ways to solve the nationalities problem, that the party would go on exerting every effort to liquidate the existing differences in the levels of the development of all nationalities.

III. 20 Dec 78

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
SOUTHEAST ASIA

K 1

INDONESIAN COMMUNISTS DISCUSS PRC 'THREAT'

LD131330Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 13 Dec 78 LD

[Review of 13 December PRAVDA on Indonesian Communist Party conference]

[Text] PRAVDA reports that the Foreign Committee of the Indonesian Communist Party has held a scientific-practical conference on the theme: Peking's policy is a threat to the cause of peace, socialism and national liberation of the peoples. The speeches of participants in the conference contained a deep critical analysis of the ideological concepts and policy of the Maoist leadership of China. It was noted that in the implementation of its antisocialist course, the Peking Maoists are alining themselves with the policy of the most extremist circles of imperialist reaction. The hegemonistic, chauvinist aims of the Peking leadership, the conference stressed, represent a direct threat to the liberation movements of the peoples of Southeast Asia and to the liberty and independence of Asian states.

The Indonesian communists expressed ardent solidarity with the peoples of Indochina directly confronting Chinese expansionism. A call was made at the conference for all progressive anti-imperialist forces to enhance their vigilance against the schemes of the Peking hegemonists and to build up a struggle against the antirevolutionary ideology and practice of Maoism.

OPPONENTS OF LAO-THAI FRIENDSHIP 'DOOMED TO FAILURE'

LD200750Y Moscow TASS in English 0630 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Vientianne, December 19, TASS--Speaking at a press conference here, a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Laotian People's Democratic Republic said that since the forming of the Laotian People's Democratic Republic relations between Laos and Thailand have been constantly improving. The two states signed a number of important mutually advantageous agreements. Favourable conditions were created for the official visit to Laos by the prime minister of Thailand, Chamanan, that was expected these days.

But the development of goodneighbourly relations between the two countries was impeded by a number of recent border incidents. Thus, on December 13 two Thai launches entered Laotian territorial waters and opened fire at Laotian border guards. On the same day the air space of Laos was violated by Thai Air Force planes.

Attacks were made, in particular, on the town of Savannakhet and on a number of peaceful settlements. In all instances Laotian border guards worthily rebuffed the armed provocations.

The Laotian side reiterated its readiness to play host to the prime minister of Thailand at any convenient time. The strengthening of goodneighbourly relations between Laos and Thailand is in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and facilitates the strengthening of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, it was stressed by the Laotian Foreign Ministry spokesman. Attempts by opponents of Laotian-Thai friendship to undermine it are doomed to failure. Laos will further base its relations with all countries, including neighbouring countries, on principles of mutual respect of territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs.

USSR-SRV TREATY CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD PEACE PRAISED

LD191423Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Editorial: "A Treaty of Friendship and Brotherhood"]

[Text] Another vivid and memorable page has been opened in the glorious history of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship, at the source of which stood the great Lenin and Ho Chi Minh, outstanding leader of the Vietnamese people. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Standing Committee of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's [SRV] National Assembly have unanimously ratified the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty between the USSR and the SRV signed in Moscow on 3 November. In accordance with Article 8 of the treaty, it entered into force on the day the instruments of ratification were exchanged. This exchange occurred in Hanoi on 13 December 1978.

Speaking at the routine session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium at which the question of the treaty's ratification was discussed, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev called it a document of outstanding political significance that mirrors our sincere, pure relations as class brothers in the joint struggle for Marxist-Leninist ideals. "The treaty," Leonid Ilich stressed, "expresses the determination of the CPSU and the Vietnamese Communist Party and of both our states to enrich cooperation annually, to strengthen Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and to build it to last for centuries."

The friendship between our peoples has successfully stood the test of time, has been tempered in the fire of ordeals and has now become an inalienable part of the socio-political life of the two fraternal countries. The treaty imparts new and powerful impetus to Soviet-Vietnamese friendship because its main content and most important objective are to insure favorable conditions for the peaceful creative labor of the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples and for the successful building of communism and socialism in our countries. The Soviet Union and Vietnam will pool their efforts for the consolidation and expansion of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technical cooperation, will continue the long-term coordination of their national economic plans and will agree to long-term measures for developing the most important sectors of the economy, science and technology. The treaty reveals the broadest opportunities for further deepening and developing comprehensive ties between both countries in accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism and on the basis of mutual respect for state sovereignty and independence, equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

In the treaty, the Soviet Union and Vietnam confirmed once again their unanimous desire to struggle consistently in every way for the further strengthening of unity and cohesion among the socialist countries and for the consolidation of the world socialist system and its historic gains. A fundamental principle of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and Socialist Vietnam is the tireless struggle to insure international peace and the security of the peoples, develop relations among countries with different social systems on the basis of peaceful coexistence and expand and deepen detente in international relations. And here the treaty particularly emphasizes that the Soviet Union and Vietnam will assist the struggle of nonaligned countries and will support the aspirations of the peoples of Southeast Asia for peace, independence and cooperation among themselves.

Almost a month and a half have elapsed since the signing of the Soviet-Vietnamese treaty and the publication of its text in the press. However, the foreign press is still continuing to comment broadly on the conclusion of the treaty and the content of its individual articles. And here great attention is being paid to the treaty's provisions confirming the main directions of our countries' foreign policy.

Many commentators also single out the treaty article stating that in the event of either side coming under attack or under threat of attack, the Soviet Union and Vietnam will immediately enter into mutual consultations with the aim of eliminating this threat and adopting the appropriate effective measures to insure peace and the security of their countries.

In fraternal socialist countries and among broad sections of the world's progressive public the treaty has been greeted with full approval and with the firm confidence that it will undoubtedly exert a favorable influence on the development of the international situation as a whole and especially in Southeast Asia. The peoples of this region, who have been subjected to expansion on several occasions, see the treaty as a firm guarantee of the stabilization of the situation and as a reliable barrier to the penetration of their countries by the aggressive forces of reaction and imperialism. "The Soviet-Vietnamese treaty," the INDIAN EXPRESS wrote, "has altered the balance of forces on the Asian Continent in favor of peace, security and progress. The Soviet Union and the SRV are linked by firm friendship of many years' standing, whose role is particularly enhanced by the growing complication of the situation in Asia."

Those who dislike the friendship of the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples, and who would like to see our socialist community disunited and Southeast Asia open to the forces of aggression, are precisely the people who clearly do not find the Soviet-Vietnamese treaty to their liking. One must include in this group above all the Peking leaders, in whom the conclusion of the Soviet-Vietnamese treaty generated a malicious reaction and the desire to completely distort its true aims and significance. But however assiduous they have been in their provocative anti-Soviet and anti-Vietnamese campaign, it has not brought them any prizes. Especially since the treaty has already become a political reality which they will have to take into account whether they want to or not.

"Peace, tranquility, freedom from any outside interference, and neighborly relations," said Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his speech, are now especially necessary for Southeast Asia, the Asian Continent as a whole and the whole world." The Soviet-Vietnamese treaty will serve these important aims for the benefit of all progressive mankind, and in the interests of all peoples struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

SRV EXPOSES PEKING'S 'LIES' ON KAMPUCHEAN NATIONAL FRONT

ID200306Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 19 Dec 78 ID

[From the "International Diary" program presented by commentator Viktor Levin]

[Text] It is reported in a dispatch from Hanoi that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] has made a statement in which Peking's slanderous lies on the situation in Kampuchea are revealed. The Peking authorities allege that the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] does not represent the Kampuchean people. The SRV Foreign Ministry statement resolutely exposes Peking's lie.

The Chinese leaders have resorted to the artless trick of trying to turn the facts upside down. It is not secret to anyone that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique serves the interests of Peking. It is also well known--as reported, in particular, by the Singapore paper STRAITS TIMES--that there are more than 10,000 Chinese soldiers in Kampuchea and that the Kampuchean Army is controlled by more than 6,000 Chinese military advisers.

The SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs has justifiably stated that the Peking authorities are using the reactionary Phnom Penh clique to implement their expansionist and hegemonistic plans in Southeast Asia.

To this can be added that now, when the Kampuchean patriots have created the KNUFNS, Peking, feeling that the ground is shifting from under its feet, is trying to conceal the truth through slander. But a lie has short legs.

PRC 'PURSUING HOSTILE POLICY' TOWARD VIETNAM

ID181416Y Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 18 Dec 78 ID

[Text] Tokyo, December 18, TASS--The Socialist Republic of Vietnam adheres to a policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with all countries. This was stated by Phan Hien, deputy foreign minister of Vietnam, at a press conference for foreign correspondents here today. We know the price of peace, the deputy foreign minister said, and this is why we want peace. Vietnam does not intend to violate the independence and sovereignty of other states, but the Vietnamese people will rise up in arms against those who wish to violate the independence and sovereignty of Vietnam.

Touching on the question of the ethnic Chinese residing in Vietnam, Phan Hien noted that they enjoyed the same rights as all the Vietnamese citizens, but Peking is prompting them to leave Vietnam, provocatively asserting that there would be a war between China and Vietnam, and that they would allegedly be killed by the Vietnamese or perish at the hands of Chinese soldiers who would put them to death as "traitors" when they "entered" Vietnam.

China is pursuing a hostile policy vis-a-vis Vietnam, Phan Hien stressed. Peking does not wish to see Vietnam a sovereign, united and strong nation, because it regards such a Vietnam as an obstacle to its expansionist designs in South East Asia. This is why we are defending not only the interests of Vietnam, Phan Hien pointed out, but the interests of all the peoples of South East Asia, too.

Touching on the Vietnamese-Kampuchean conflict, Phan Hien said that Phnom Penh troops were making incursions into Vietnamese territory, killing civilians there, including women and children, destroying everything on their way. Kampuchea has started attacking Vietnam because China is backing it. Peking supplies the Kampuchean forces with artillery pieces and warplanes.

As to the stand of Vietnam, it is prepared to solve the outstanding problems with Kampuchea left over from the days of colonialism, by peaceful means, Phan Hien said. But Phnom Penh rejects these proposals, because it is striving to continue the conflict with Vietnam on orders from China, which does not wish to see Vietnam a strong nation.

VIETNAMESE CP CULTURE DELEGATION ENDS USSR VISIT

ID181041Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] a delegation of VCP party workers headed by Tran Do, member of the VCP Central Committee and deputy chief of the VCP Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Section, was in the Soviet Union 2-12 December familiarizing itself with the CPSU's experience in the sphere of literature, art and cultural enlightenment.

III. 20 Dec 78

L 4

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
INDOCHINA

The Vietnamese comrades had talks in the CPSU Central Committee Culture and Propaganda Departments, the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy and the Tul'skiy and Volgogradskiy Obkoms, and visited several cultural institutions.

USSR-SRV TRADE VOLUME TO REACH RECORD HIGH IN 1978

OW191835Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1000 GMT 18 Dec 78 OW

[Text] This year the volume of goods exchanged between the Soviet Union and Vietnam has increased considerably and will reach R500 million by the end of the year, more than any previous year. This was announced by the Committee for Foreign Economic Relations in Moscow.

The USSR is expanding its export of machinery and equipment to Vietnam. Dozens of enterprises, power stations, transportation and agricultural projects will be built in Vietnam with Soviet assistance. The Soviet Union has trained thousands of Vietnamese technical cadres who have gone back to their country to participate in production in all economic sectors. Vietnam was admitted to the CEMA this year.

SOVIET-VIETNAMESE TV, RADIO COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

ID20111Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 20 Dec 78 ID

[Text] A working protocol on cooperation in the field of television and radio has been signed in Moscow between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting [Gostelradio] and the Committee for Television and Radio of the Government Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV].

The protocol was signed by Lapiin, chairman of the USSR Gostelradio, and Tran Lam, chairman of the SRV Committee for Television and Radio of the Government Council.

III. 20 Dec 78

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
NORTHEAST ASIA

M 1

SRV FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TOKYO PRESS CONFERENCE

LD192200Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Valeriy Kosovan]

[Text] Here is a dispatch from Tokyo on the press conference given by SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh, who has completed his official visit to Japan. He accused the United States of deviating from normalization of relations with Vietnam and from implementing their commitment of assisting the Vietnamese people in restoring the country after suffering from American aggression. The Vietnamese minister noted that Washington was using the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border conflict and the ill-famed problem of so-called refugees from Vietnam as a pretext for refusing to normalize relations with Vietnam. Nguyen Duy Trinh underlined that both the conflict with Kampuchea and the so-called refugee problem has been created by the insidious anti-Vietnamese policy of China, which was out to weaken Socialist Vietnam.

The minister denied the fabrications of Peking propaganda about an incursion of Vietnamese troops into Kampuchean territory. He pointed out that the fighting against the troops of the Phnom Penh regime was being conducted by the armed forces of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation.

In conclusion, Nguyen Duy Trinh expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to Japan. He announced among other things that Japan would grant Vietnam a loan in the 1979 fiscal year amounting to more than \$52.5 million, and would render Vietnam assistance without compensation in an amount exceeding \$21 million. This will help Vietnam, he said, to overcome the heavy consequences of the war against imperialist intervention and to eliminate the damage caused to the Vietnamese economy by the recent unprecedented floods.

Ends Visit to Japan

LD201219Y Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, December 20, TASS--Nguyen Duy Trinh, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, has ended his official visit to Japan.

It is said in the joint statement on the Japanese-Vietnamese talks, held here, that the foreign minister of the SRV, Nguyen Duy Trinh, paid a courtesy visit to the prime minister of Japan, Masayoshi Ohira, and twice met Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda for official talks.

It is said in the statement that the ministers exchanged views on international problems of mutual interest and relations between the two countries. The talks took place in a friendly and frank atmosphere.

The two foreign ministers agreed that their countries should cooperate with each other in the interests of peace and stability in Asia on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, renunciation of aggression and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence. The two sides declared their intention to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries by deepening mutual understanding between them.

Commenting on the results of the Vietnamese foreign minister's visit to Japan, local observers stressed that it testified to the increased international prestige of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and its peace-loving policy.

III. 20 Dec 78

M 2

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
NORTHEAST ASIA

PRC NUCLEAR EXPLOSION CAUSES RADIOACTIVE RAIN IN JAPAN

LD200830Y Moscow TASS in English 0738 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, December 20, TASS--Rains which fell throughout Japan on Tuesday were found to have high radioactivity levels. As was reported by the Science and Technology Agency of Japan, radioactive contamination in some populated localities exceed permissible levels ten times. The highest level of contamination was registered in the cities of Wajima, Yonago, Fukushima and Niigata.

The report says that the radioactive rainfall is due to the nuclear explosion staged in the atmosphere by China on December 14.

SHIBAYEV-LED TRADE UNION DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MONGOLIA

LD200318Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] A Soviet trade union delegation headed by Shibayev, chairman of the AUCCTU, has arrived in Ulaanbaatar. Trade-union leaders of the two countries will be discussing questions relating to further all-round cooperation of these two large mass-organizations of working people of the Soviet Union and Mongolia.

TASS SCORES REPORTS OF SOCIALIST TRADE WITH CHILE

LD152104Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1512 GMT 15 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 15 December--TASS political observer Yevgeniy Babenko writes: It is by no means coincidental that from time to time there appear in publications loyal to Pinochet, reports about some kind of "commercial links" between the socialist states the USSR in particular, and Chile. Such newspapers as EL MURCURIO have even contrived to depict diagrams... "of the dynamics of the development of two-way trade" between the countries. Moreover, a "canard" concerning "deliveries of Soviet tanks for Chile" was distributed. Such false "sensations" have already been repeatedly refuted both by the Soviet side and also by the Chilean progressive forces. However, making extensive practical use of the Goebbels ministry's principle of "keep on lying and something will stick," the Chilean junta's propaganda organs once in a while put up the usual slanderous "balloon" about trade with the USSR. Incidentally, some Western newspapers, even those which call themselves "reliable" and "objective," are not averse to reprinting such foul-smelling absurdities.

Why is this done? The answer is simple. First, with the aid of the fabrication about the supposed fascist junta's trade with the socialist world, those dealing in misinformation are trying to cast aspersions on the real policy of the Soviet Union. Second, they hope that such "reports" will help create the impression that the Pinochet dictatorship is, supposedly, by no means in the position of international isolation condemnation that it really is in. Third and finally, and this is probably the main thing, the public's attention is thereby distracted from the real facts of the tacit and extensive complicity with the junta on the part of the Western powers, primarily the United States, including supplies of American weapons and ammunition to Santiago. As staff members of the American Institute for Policy Studies ascertained recently, in 1977 alone, despite the official embargo on military supplies to the Chilean dictator in operation in the United States, Pinochet received American weapons to the tune of \$57 million. Just recently, Chile received from the United States transport planes, aircraft engines, radar installations, artillery shells and other weapons and equipment. Deliveries to the Chilean generals of American war planes, rifles and ammunition totaling \$120 million are envisaged... In order to purchase these weapons the junta uses the great financial aid given to the Pinochet regime by the Western countries which so like to wear the mantle of defenders of "human rights" in the East but which stubbornly and silently pass over the Chilean fascists' crimes against their own people.

Such is the truth about the outside aid to the military junta in Santiago. And it simply cannot be concealed with the aid of diversionary propaganda maneuvers.

BRIEFS

HAVANA COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS--Havana, December 11, TASS--The telegraph and telephone centers under construction in Havana will link Cuba by communication canals with over one hundred countries. The assembling of equipment is being completed at both projects and equipment is being tested. These centers having the latest equipment will make it possible to increase considerably the number of international communications canals with Cuba and will make communication swifter and more reliable. The commissioning of the new centers of international communication is planned to be held on the eve of the opening of the sixth conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned countries in September next year in Havana. But Cuban builders and communications workers assumed high socialist commitments under which the projects must go into operation several months earlier than planned. [Text] Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 11 Dec 78 LD]

SUSLOV PRESENTS AWARD TO BREZHNEV AT KREMLIN CEREMONY

LD192328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--At a solemn ceremony in the Kremlin on December 19 the motherland's highest award--the Order of Lenin and the third Gold Star Medal of Hero of the Soviet Union was presented to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

On instructions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium the award was presented to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev by member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.A. Suslov.

Present at the ceremony were Comrades Y.V. Andropov, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, A.P. Kirilenko, A.N. Kosygin, A.Y. Pelshe, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko, P.N. Demichev, V.V. Kuznetsov, P.M. Masherov, B.N. Ponomarev, N.A. Tikhonov, I.V. Kapitonov, V.I. Dolgikh, M.V. Zimyanin, Y.P. Ryabov, K.V. Rusakov, M.S. Gorbachev, as well as vice chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, M. Kholov; Chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers A.P. Shitikov, V.P. Ruben; secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium M.P. Georgadze; assistants to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Aleksandrov, A.I. Blatov; aide to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Y.M. Samoteykin.

Presenting the Soviet Union's highest awards, Comrade A.M. Suslov said:

Dear Leonid Ilich!

Dear Comrades!

We are honoring you, Leonid Ilich, today together with all of our party, with all the Soviet people on your birthday. Marking your outstanding services performed to the Communist Party and the Soviet state, in strengthening the Soviet Union's economic and defense might during the years of the Great Patriotic War and in the postwar period, your tireless efforts in the struggle for peace and on the occasion of your birthday, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium conferred on you the highest award of our fatherland--the Order of Lenin and the third Gold Star Medal of Hero of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet people, the working people of the socialist countries and the entire progressive world know you as an outstanding political leader and statesman, a passionate fighter for the cause of peace and communism, a true and unshakable follower of the cause of great Lenin.

Your life and activity--as a worker, party organizer, the heroic feat of the political officer in the Great Patriotic War, the party and state leader--are an example of selfless service to our socialist motherland.

The communists, all the Soviet people have invested you with the highest posts in the party and state--general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, head of the country's Defense Council--thus expressing their highest confidence in and respect to you, dear Leonid Ilich.

For 14 years, heading our party's Central Committee Politburo, you are honorably justifying this trust, displaying profound wisdom and outstanding talent of a leader and organizer in the struggle of our party and the people for the economic and social progress of our motherland, for the cause of communism and peace.

We have built a developed socialist society. Our motherland is in the prime of its material and spiritual forces. The Soviet people are monolithically rallied behind the Leninist party. The working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, the people's intelligentsia are implementing with inspiration the plans of the party, the decisions of its 25th congress. The friendship of the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union is inviolable. Science, education, public health and the culture of the Soviet people are developing successfully, and the people's welfare is growing steadily. Our party and state are showing constant concern for the glorious USSR Armed Forces that are standing guard over our revolutionary gains, universal peace and security.

The Soviet people show the working people of the whole world an inspiring example of revolutionary creativity, of successful solution of the social problems that have always concerned and do concern mankind.

The whole world sees in your person, Dear Leonid Ilich, the leader of the Soviet Union's Leninist peace-loving foreign policy. This policy has won for our homeland the deepest international prestige, gratitude of all the progressive, honest people in the world.

Together with the brother countries of the socialist community, the Soviet Union firmly and consistently upholds the cause of the peoples' peace and security and struggles to eliminate the threat of a new world war. Resolutely rebuffing the intrigues of imperialist reaction and aggression, the USSR consistently comes out for curbing the arms race and disarmament, for developing and strengthening detente, for firmly establishing the Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems as a generally accepted standard in international relations.

Our motherland is a true friend and ally of all revolutionary-liberation forces of our time, fighters for national freedom and independence, for social progress.

Consistently and with the greatest vigor you, Dear Leonid Ilich, head the activities of the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Soviet state to ensure peaceful conditions for the creative work of the Soviet people, to consolidate universal peace and security. Soviet people and upright people throughout the world are deeply grateful to you for this.

The strength of the Leninist party is in its unbreakable ties with the popular masses, in loyalty to the great teaching of Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, V.I. Lenin, in the creative elaboration and implementation of revolutionary theory.

Our party, its Leninist Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo headed by you, Dear Leonid Ilich, tirelessly carry out giant collective work to thoroughly analyze contemporary socioeconomic and political processes, to study the trends in social development, to outline the home and foreign policy course.

You, dear Leonid Ilich, make an enormous creative contribution to this fruitful activity of the party and its Central Committee. Your works are full of profoundly theoretical and ideological content, equipping communists and all working people with a clear understanding of the prospects and objectives of our struggle for communism.

Dear Leonid Ilich, working together with you, we, together with all communists and all Soviet people, feel every day your profound personal charm, see in you a wonderful example of a person who devotes all his strength to serving the party and the people, a model communist-Leninist, an attentive and principled, considerate and responsive person.

Together with all communists and all Soviet people, we warmly and heartily congratulate you on your birthday and the motherland's highest award. We wholeheartedly wish you good health, happiness and new great successes in all your fruitful activities for the good of the party and people, in the name of the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace.

To stormy applause, Comrade M.A. Suslov presented to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev the Order of Lenin and the third Gold Star Medal.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev spoke in response.

Dear Comrades and Friends:

It is with profound gratitude and emotion that I receive the decision of our party and state governing bodies to present to me today, my birthday, the Order of Lenin and the third Gold Star Medal of Hero of the Soviet Union. I am touched by this high evaluation of my activity for the benefit of our motherland, for the benefit of the Soviet people, and by the warm words of Mikhail Andreyevich.

If one considers that quite recently I had the chance to mark in my calendar 40 years of working at leading party and Soviet state posts, then I may say that the material for some generalizations and evaluation of the path traversed is, today, available.

Recently, in a conversation with a foreign comrade, I frankly stated that there are two things which have always been and will ever be closest to my heart, have always been and will remain the subject of my main concern. They are bread for the people, and security for our country.

In my lifetime, I had occasion to witness times when the country was swept by general dislocation, when millions of people endured incredible sufferings from hunger and cold. I also had, together with our glorious army, to go through the flames of the Great Patriotic War, to see with my own eyes the death and hell, fire and destruction brought by the aggressor to our peaceful socialist land. Having gone through all of this, I swore that I should do everything in my power so that such things would never be repeated, so that our party's Leninist policy--the policy of ensuring a steady rise in the people's living standards, of ensuring the country's peace and security, of building our happy communist future--will be fully victorious.

And so I am trying as hard as I can to fulfill this pledge in the high posts entrusted to me by the party and the people.

Today I do not know any loftier aims.

Today I am doing and further will be doing everything I can for Soviet people to live in tranquility and increasingly better, for the defense of the Soviet Union, whose prime aim is to prevent a new war, to be reliable and invincible, for the foreign policy of the Soviet state--a policy of peace and progress, a policy of cooperation among all states, friendship among peoples--to achieve new successes.

This, Comrades, is my answer to the award presented to me today. Great thanks once again.

The members and candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, other party figures and statesmen ardently and cordially congratulated Leonid Ilich Brezhnev on the homeland's high award and on his birthday. They wished him further fruitful activity in making the socialist homeland flourish, and in constructing communist society in our country; triumph of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, in the name of lasting peace on earth.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev expressed cordial gratitude for the congratulations.

AFP REPORTS TADZHIK PARTY SECRETARY REMOVED

TA171740Y Paris AFP in English 1715 GMT 17 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Moscow, Dec 17, AFP--Economic set-backs in Tadzhikistan were reported today at the same time as the replacement of the republic's Communist Party Central Committee secretary.

Mrs Ibodat Rakhimova has been "called to other duties" and replaced as the Afghanistan-border state's Communist Party chief by Mrs Gludzhikhon Bobosadykov, the region's newspaper reported.

The KOMMUNIST of Tadzhikistan newspaper also carried a statement by the local party Central Committee on the republic's economic difficulties. Kolkhoz collective farms and sovkhos state farms were "not making satisfactory use of their land and there were substantial stock-rearing failures," the statement said.

At the same time the state's industries were not reaching the planned levels of growth in productivity, the Central Committee statement added.

KAZAKH SUPREME SOVIET ELECTS NEW PRESIDUM CHAIRMAN

LD192022Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The draft state plan for the economic and social development of Kazakhstan in 1979 is being discussed at a session of the republic's Supreme Soviet which opened today in Alma-Ata.

Laying down new targets, in the light of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum decisions and Comrade Brezhnev's address, the deputies are making an all-round analysis of the results of the third year of the 5-year plan. The republic now produces more output of various kinds in 1 month than was produced in all of 1950.

III. 20 Dec 78

R 5

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

At the same time deputies spoke of shortcomings and listed unutilized reserves. The session is also considering the draft for the republic's budget for next year. It is intended to allocate 73.6 percent of the national income toward satisfying the needs of the population, which is more than last year.

The session elected Comrade Abdukarimov as chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and released Comrade Niyazbekov from this post in connection with his retirement on pension.

Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, is taking part in the work of the session.

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET SESSION OPENS IN KIEV 18 DECEMBER

AU181050Y Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 18 Dec 78 AU

[Excerpts] As reported, the ninth session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the ninth convocation opened in Kiev today. With prolonged applause the deputies and guests welcomed the republic's Communist Party and government leaders. Deputy Bilyy, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman, opened the session. The session examined organizational issues.

Deputy Pudenko, at his request, was relieved of the duties of Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputy chairman for health reasons and because of his retirement. Deputy Filonenko, Chernigovskiy Oblispolkom chairman, was elected Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputy chairman. At the same time he was relieved of the duties of member of the Supreme Soviet Commission for Transport and Communications.

Deputy Rozenko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman and Ukrainian Gosplan chairman, delivered a report on the first item on the agenda. The speaker emphasized that the Ukraine's working people were successfully accomplishing the historic tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress. In 1978 the republic made a large step forward in developing all national economic branches and in improving the people's prosperity. The national income, one of the basic indexes, increased in 1978 compared with 1977 by more than R2 billion, and will total R77 billion. The volume of industrial production will increase 4.5 percent.

The Ukraine's farmers obtained the highest grain yield ever of 50.6 million tons, and delivered to the fatherland's granaries 1,082 million puds of grain. The social program is being successfully implemented. In particular, per capita real incomes will increase 3 percent in 1978.

At the same time Comrade Rozenko pointed out that, notwithstanding the great achievements in the republic's national economy, there are also still unresolved tasks, untapped reserves and possibilities.

The 1979 draft state plan for the economic and social development of the Ukrainian SSR, the speaker said, was worked out on the basis of the tasks set under the 10th 5-Year Plan, or CPSU Central Committee plenums, of the theses and conclusions contained in Comrade Brezhnev's speeches concerning the fundamental questions of economic development, and in accordance with the country's state plan endorsed by the USSR Supreme Soviet session for the coming year. The tasks of the republic's state plan are aimed at further developing the socialist economy and raising the standards of the people's prosperity. This to a large extent should be attained through improving the quality of work in all national economic branches.

The volume of industrial production in the republic will increase 5.2 percent, the gross output of agriculture will increase 4.2 percent, labor productivity in industry will increase 3.6 percent, in construction 3.2 percent, and in agriculture 5.9 percent. Increased labor productivity is expected to account for 96 percent of the increase in the national income.

The speaker pointed out that it has been targeted for the coming year to build 18.9 million square meters of housing. This will make it possible to improve living conditions for 1.6 million inhabitants.

Session Continues 19 Dec

AU191120Y Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 19 Dec 78 AU

[Text] The ninth session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the ninth convocation is continuing its proceedings in Kiev.

At the morning session the deputies continued discussing the first and second items on the agenda: The 1979 state plan for the Ukraine's economic and social development, and the progress made in fulfilling the 1978 state plan for the Ukrainian SSR economic and social development as well as the 1979 Ukrainian SSR state budget and report on the fulfillment of the 1977 Ukrainian SSR State Budget.

Those taking part in the debate were Deputy Mikulichev, Chernigovskiy Obkom second secretary; and Deputy Panteleyev, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Labor. There were 20 deputies taking part in the debate on the first and second items on the agenda.

The decision was adopted to end the debate. Deputy Rozenko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman and Ukrainian Gosplan chairman, delivered a concluding speech. The session unanimously passed the law on the 1979 state plan for the economic and social development of the Ukrainian SSR, and a decision on the progress made in fulfilling the 1978 state plan for the economic and social development of the Ukrainian SSR.

A concluding speech was then delivered by Deputy Baranovskiy, Ukrainian minister of finance. The deputies unanimously endorsed the republic's budget for the coming year and passed the law on the 1979 Ukrainian SSR state budget. A decision was adopted on the fulfillment of the 1977 Ukrainian SSR state budget.

The session proceeded to examine the third item on the agenda: The Ukrainian SSR draft bill on the Ukrainian Council of Ministers. A report on this issue was delivered by Deputy Lyashko, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman.

The deputies also heard a report delivered on behalf of the Supreme Soviet's Legislative Proposals Commission by Deputy Sivolob, commission chairman. The debate on the Ukrainian SSR draft bill on the Ukrainian Council of Ministers then opened. Those taking part in the debate were Deputy Grintsov, Sumskiy Obkom first secretary; Deputy Babich, Krivorozhskiy Gorispolkom chairman; and Deputy Zaychuk, Ukrainian minister of justice.

With this the debate on the third item on the agenda was concluded. Deputy Lyashko, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman, delivered a concluding speech.

The session is continuing its proceedings.

FIRST STAGE OF ATOMMASH NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT PLANT COMMISSIONED

LD181312Y Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 18 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 18, TASS--The first section of the Soviet Atomic power equipment plant, having no equal in the world, has been commissioned. The first cubic metre of earth was excavated only a few years ago at the plant's construction site in the steppeland near Volgodonsk, Rostov region. And now a large-scale enterprise occupying 158,000 square meters has gone up there.

Atommash is the plant's abbreviated name. It is being built in conformity with the five-year plan for 1976-1980. The enterprise will produce atomic reactors with a capacity of one million kilowatts each, as well as other equipment for power plants. For the first time in world practice, the output of such units will be organized almost by the flow-line method. This will make for their early supply to atomic power plants, the construction of which has been started or will be launched shortly in the USSR.

The commissioning of the plant will accelerate substantially the solution of the task set by the 25th congress to ensure priority development to the atomic power-engineering industry, to improve the fuel and power balance of the country, it was noted by Leonid Brezhnev in his message of greetings to the builders of the plant in connection with their pre-term fulfilment of the 1976 plan.

The unique equipment, with which Atommash is fitted out, has been manufactured by Soviet enterprises. Cranes with a 1,200-ton lifting capacity are being used to move the aggregates along the flow-line. Powerful machines easily bend steel sheets more than a quarter of a metre thick and five meters broad into reactor bodies. Machine-tools as tall as 4-story houses are used to machine parts weighing up to 80 tons.

Growing up together with the enterprise is a new housing estate with multi-storey buildings and broad streets. A house-building complex was put up there for this purpose. It is capable of turning out 140,000 square meters of housing a year.

BRIEFS

MAGADAN-SINEGORYE FLIGHTS--Regular passenger flights have begun on the Magadan-Sinegorye route. The AN-24 aircraft covers the 245 km route in only 45 minutes. Presently this route has three flights a week. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0745 GMT 11 Dec 78 OW]

ZEYA-SVOBODNYI POWER LINE--The Far East's first 500 kilovolt high-tension power transmission line was put under load today between Zeya and Svobodnyy by collectives of leading mechanized columns of the Dalektrosetstroy and Krasnoyarsk Elektrosetstroy trusts. [Text] [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 OW]

CARBAMIDE CONCENTRATE PLANT--A plant for the preparation of carbamide concentrate, which is the first plant of its kind in Primorskiy Kray, has begun operating to full capacity in Chernigovka after its second stage became operational. The plant's output will replenish the fodder base of communal livestock in Primorye and some areas of the Far East. The plant can now produce some 60 tons of concentrate per shift. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 12 Dec 78 OW]

GORIZONT COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED 19 DEC

LD201054Y Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 20 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 20, TASS--A communications satellite, Gorizont, was launched in the Soviet Union on December 19 under a program for the further improvement and development of communications systems and television transmissions with the help of artificial earth satellites.

The sputnik's maximum distance from the earth is 48,365 and minimum distance--2,581 kilometres. The period of revolution around the earth is 23 hours 40 minutes, the orbit's inclination--11.3 degrees.

It has on board improved multiplex relay apparatus intended for ensuring telephone and telegraphic radio communication and transmission of television programmes.

It is planned with the help of Gorizont communications satellites to ensure in 1980 the transmission of television programmes from the 22nd summer Olympic games in Moscow.

Apart from communications and television apparatus, the satellite has a three-axis system for precision orientation to the earth, a power supply system with independent guidance and alignment of the solar batteries with the sun, a thermo-regulation system, a telemetric system for transmitting back to earth data on the work of onboard systems, a radio system for precision measurement of the orbit's parameters and for controlling the satellite and an orbit-correcting system.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is functioning normally. The sputnik is controlled by the command-measuring complex. The apparatus will be tested in accordance with the programme.

COSMOS-1063 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 19 DEC

LD190852Y Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 19, TASS--The Cosmos-1063 satellite of the earth was launched in the Soviet Union today to carry on the exploration of outer space.

The satellite initial orbital period is 97.5 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface--661 kilometres, minimum distance 632 km, and orbital inclination--81.2 degrees. The on board equipment is functioning normally.

FORCE-5 UNDERGROUND EARTH TREMORS RECORDED IN ARMENIA

LD191422Y Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Yerevan, December 19, TASS--Brief underground tremors have been registered at 1 hour 14 minutes, Moscow time, in Yerevan today. According to the Institute of Geophysics and Engineering Seismology of Armenia's Academy of Sciences, the strength of tremors was 5 points under the 12-point scale in the epicentre of the earth tremor--19 kilometres south-west of the capital of the republic. There are no human losses or destructions.